

WAR SOVEREIGN SOARING THE HEAVENS BOOK 10

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War Sovereign Soaring The Heavens

(Ling tian zhan zun) (凌天战尊) by

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Synopsis

Earth's top weapon specialist's soul crossed over to an alternate world, merged with Rebirth Martial Emperor's memories, cultivating Nine Dragons War Sovereign Technique, sweeping through all opposition with invincible might!

Able to refine medicine, capable of crafting weapons, and knows the art of inscription....

Being skilled in all professions is the way of kings!

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Chapter 901: The First Peak of the Five Element Sect

"I can't believe that we have such a terrifying Inscription Formation in our Five Element Sect!"

"At first I thought that having the Concept Fragments would already make the Concept comprehension speed fast enough... However, looks like this speed is nothing compared to being in the Profound Assimilation Formation."

"It's crazy! It's too crazy! Why are there so many abnormal Inscription Formation in the Cloud Continent?!"

"However, although this Profound Assimilation Formation is powerful, it's not something that anybody could easily use. After all, you need to at least use up hundreds of Concept Fragments every time it's activated!"

"Although I've been in the Five Element Sect for so many years, it's no wonder that I've never heard of this Profound Assimilation Formation before. I think the cost of consumption would be kind of unbearable for our Five Element Sect!"

"The Profound Assimilation Formation will be activated after ten days... Looks like the sect is going all out this time."

"The ten young disciples who can enter the formation are indeed very blessed!"

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After the group of Five Element Sect's disciples found out about the functions of the Profound Assimilation Formation, they went crazy over it.

Looks of envy immediately shot out of their eyes and landed on Duan Ling Tian, Nangong Chen, Nangong Yi, and the few others.

They knew very well that the ten young disciples who had

demonstrated outstanding strength today would have a brand new transformation in the Concepts that they had comprehended and might soar up to the top ten days later!

"Ten days later, the Profound Assimilation Formation, huh? I can't wait to see that!" Tian Zhen, the son of the Peak Master of Earth Peak, had also walked out from the shadow of defeat with his eyes shining brightly.

"This time, my target is the Seventh Level Intermediate Water Concept!" The eyes of Tan Huan, the direct disciple of the Peak Master of Water Peak, also lit up immediately. Strong confidence could be seen in both of her eyes.

Although her cultivation base had currently reached the Sixth Level Void Interpretation, in terms of her Concept comprehension level, it was only at the Fifth Level Intermediate Water Concept.

"The Profound Assimilation Formation... Ten days later, I must comprehend the Ninth Level Intermediate Fire Concept! I can no longer allow the Nangong Twins to keep pressing on my head!" Hu Fei, the direct disciple of the Peak Master of Fire Peak, had a cold look on his face. A cold sneer was lingering on the corner of his mouth.

"And that Duan Ling Tian! I'll make sure he suffers from the utter misery that he wishes he's a dead man one day!" With this thought in his mind, Hu Fei swept a cold glance at Duan Ling Tian again.

Although they were a huge distance apart, Duan Ling Tian could still sense Hu Fei's cold eyes on him. He could feel a chilly air running down his back. It was icy and frosty.

"Hu Fei... I'll give you a surprise ten days later." A hint of an inconspicuous smirk was playing by the corner of Duan Ling Tian's mouth.

At this moment, he seemed to have become the master who had Hu Fei's fate in his hands.

Ten days later in the Profound Assimilation Formation, Duan Ling Tian indeed would have the ability to become the master who determined their fates. After all, that Profound Assimilation Formation was created by the Rebirth Martial Emperor.

He was no different from the true Rebirth Martial Emperor since he had the memories of the two reincarnations of the Rebirth Martial Emperor.

When the Five Element Sect's senior officials and disciples present on the scene finally dispersed, all they could talk about was the Profound Assimilation Formation.

As for the Battle of the Five Peaks, it had already been temporarily forgotten.

After all, the Profound Assimilation Formation was just too terrifying.

Duan Ling Tian and Huang Daniu left the scene and returned to Wood Peak along with Qi Yu, Yang Ling, Ke Zheng, and Chen Wei.

On the way back, Chen Wei sighed, "I've been in the five Element Sect for almost 20 years, and this is my first time hearing about that Profound Assimilation Formation... Duan Ling Tian, Daniu, the both of you must work hard once you've gotten inside it, okay?"

"Don't worry." Daniu grinned. "This time, I'll surely comprehend the Eight Level Intermediate Earth Concept. Who knows, maybe my character will have a sudden boost, and I'll be able to comprehend the Ninth Level Intermediate Earth Concept immediately!"

"The Ninth Level Intermediate Earth Concept?" The moment they heard Huang Daniu's words, even Qi Yu the Peak Master of Wood Peak could not stop the smile that crept up on his mouth. They felt that Huang Daniu's ambition was just too huge.

Duan Ling Tian could not help but laugh wryly as well.

Did this Daniu really think that the Profound Assimilation Formation of the Five Element Sect to be that crazy?

According to Duan Ling Tian's estimation, after ten days when the Five Element Sect activated the Profound Assimilation Formation, the Concept Fragments that would be placed inside had to be some low-grade Fragments.

If a martial artist used these Concept Fragments on its own, he would be able to comprehend the Concept over a long time, and the elevation would probably be huge.

However, when they were placed in the Profound Assimilation Formation, they would be used up very quickly. Just one Fragment would not have much effect on a martial artist. It mainly relied on the quantity of the Fragment instead.

This was also the disadvantage of the Profound Assimilation Formation. It used up too much Concept Fragments.

'Only if several hundreds of pieces of Seventh Level Concept Fragments are placed inside would the effect be completely different. Anyhow, even if the Five Element Sect only puts in some low-grade Concept Fragments into the Profound Assimilation Formation, I still want to use this to help elevate my four Concepts rapidly so that my strength will be upgraded to a higher level!' Duan Ling Tian's eyes gleamed brightly as he made up his mind.

He was absolutely confident in this.

'With my current Spiritual Energy, although I dare not say that I'll be able to fully steal over the control of the Profound Assimilation Formation, at the very least I can still tamper with that formation,' Duan Ling Tian thought to himself.

If Duan Ling Tian's thoughts were heard by the senior officials of the Five Element Sect, they would most likely be shocked to the core.

In fact, the Profound Assimilation Formation in the Five Element

Sect's Gold Peak was actually arranged by a Martial Monarch Stage Inscription Master who was hired by the Five Element Sect many years ago with a huge amount of money.

However, right now, Duan Ling Tian who had yet to step into the Void Transformation was thinking about tampering with the Formation. If that Martial Monarch powerhouse found out about this, he would most probably be so worked up that he would throw up blood in agitation!

After they returned to Wood Peak, Duan Ling Tian and Huang Daniu went their separate ways from Qi Yu and the rest before going back to the three-story pavilion where they currently lived.

"Big Brother Duan! Big Guy!"

The moment Duan Ling Tian and Huang Daniu approached to the pavilion, they immediately heard a familiar voice.

On the balcony of the second floor of the pavilion, a young girl was waving her hand at them with a bright smile on her face. It was Ye Xuan who had come together with them to the Five Element Sect a while ago.

"Little Xuan," Duan Ling Tian greeted Ye Xuan with a smile after he and Huang Daniu walked up to the balcony on the pavilion's second floor.

"Hehe, Lassie Xuan, you're a little frustrated not being able to go watch the Battle of the Five Peaks with your own eyes, huh?" Huang Daniu grinned. "It's a pity that you couldn't see your Brother Niu's, ahem, MY super elegant demeanor. What a pity..."

"Hurmph! Who wants to look at you?!" Ye Xuan scrunched up her nose and snorted.

Then, her gaze instantly landed on Duan Ling Tian as her eyes shone brightly, "Big Brother Duan, how're the results?"

"Not bad." Duan Ling Tian smiled.

"Not bad?" Ye Xuan was stunned, she was obviously confused.

"Lassie Xuan, with Duan Ling Tian and I making our appearance personally, do you really need to ask about the results? If we couldn't let the Wood Peak be the First Peak of the Five Element Sect, we would be too embarrassed to come back, okay?" Huang Daniu laughed loudly.

"That's a bluff!" Ye Xuan had a stop-lying-to-me look on her face she continued, "Don't think I don't know that in the past of the Five Element Sect, the four Peaks, Wood, Water, Fire, and Earth, had never once been able to defeat Gold Peak in the Battle of the Five Peaks to become the First Peak in the Five Element Sect!"

"Well, there you go. You just said it yourself. That was THE PAST of the Five Element Sect... What if I tell you that today, the history of the Five Element Sect has been rewritten?" Huang Daniu continued to laugh.

"Rewritten?" Ye Xuan was taken aback. She could slightly sense that it did not seem like Huang Daniu was playing a joke on her.

However, she still refused to believe him. Instead, she turned towards Duan Ling Tian who was by the side, because in her heart, Duan Ling Tian was the only person that could convince her completely. She believed him unconditionally.

"What Daniu said is true." When Duan Ling Tian saw Ye Xuan turning over to look at him, he smiled and nodded. "Little Xuan, from today onwards, the Wood Peak that we're in is already the First Peak of the Five Element Sect for the next three years."

The First Peak of the Five Element Sect?

Naturally, Ye Xuan believed Duan Ling Tian. However, she was still stunned.

Although it had only been a short while since she joined the Wood Peak of Five Element Sect, she still knew very well what the First Peak of the Five Element Sect actually meant, and what it actually signified.

From today onwards, Wood Peak would replace Gold Peak and become the First Peak of the Five Element Sect for the next three years?

Not only that, all of this was actually all thanks to the two people standing before her?

She could not suppress the excitement in her heart at all.

"Big Brother Duan, please tell me in details about what happened at the Battle of the Five Peaks today..." In actual fact, Ye Xuan felt very regretful that she was unable to witness the Battle of the Five Peaks with her own eyes. It was unfortunate, but there was nothing she could do about it. After all, she had yet to enter the Void Prying Stage and was not able to hover in the air yet.

"Let Daniu tell you instead." Duan Ling Tian smiled.

"Big Guy, hurry!" Yue Xuan turned towards Huang Daniu and scowled.

"Excuse me, lassie! You call Duan Ling Tian 'Big Brother Duan' but you call me 'Big Guy'? Don't you think that's a little impolite?" Huang Daniu narrowed his eyes, but the smile on his face still remained as he asked slowly.

"If you still refuse to tell me the story, I'm going to set fire to your room down when you're cultivating next time!" When Ye Xuan saw how Huang Daniu was trying to take advantage of the situation to make a request, she glared and threatened him immediately.

When he realized that he was being threatened, the smile on Huang Daniu's face froze before disappearing completely.

He really feared that Ye Xuan would do such thing when he was in the midst of cultivating. Putting aside the fact that he did not have the heart to do anything to that naughty and mischievous Ye Xuan, Duan Ling Tian would never agree to it even if he really did have the intention to do something to her.

"Fine, you're the boss," Huang Daniu shook his head and then roughly told her about the story of the Battle of the Five Peaks today. He started the story by excitedly telling her how valiant he was, "... Lassie Xuan, you didn't see it at that time! I sent Hu Fei flying with just one punch you know!"

"Yeah, yeah, you're the best!" Ye Xuan snorted, "But you're still no match for the Nangong Twins from Gold Peak... Looks like the reason Wood Peak became the First Peak of the Five Element Sect for the next three years is all thanks to my Big Brother Duan! It has nothing to do with you at all!"

"Lassie Xuan, you can't say like that! Even if Duan Ling Tian did not make an appearance, our Wood Peak could still become the Second Peak of the Five Element Sect for the next three years!" When Huang Daniu saw how Ye Xuan dismissed his hard work with only one sentence, he immediately turned anxious.

"See! You said so yourself, SECOND! Can second be compared to being the first?" Ye Xuan continued to say as a matter of course, "Not only that, with Big Brother Duan's innate ability, even if you weren't in the team battle, Wood Peak can still obtain the first place right?"

Chapter 902: Ten Days Later

Ye Xuan's words left Huang Daniu totally dejected.

Indeed.

Even without him, Duan Ling Tian would still be able to help Wood Peak obtain the glory of getting the first place in the Battle of the Five Peaks with just his strength alone.

"Alright," Duan Ling Tian interrupted and smoothed over the dispute when he could no longer stand it, "Today, Daniu defeated Hu Fei from Fire Peak you know! Moreover, he also helped avenged Elder Yang, and he also demonstrated a splendid opening performance for Wood Peak. His contributions cannot go unnoticed!"

The moment Huang Daniu heard this, a smile immediately appeared on his face again as he cast a proud look at Ye Xuan.

Ye Xuan, on the other hand, rolled her eyes and did not even bother to take notice of him.

"Let's get back to our cultivation," Duan Ling Tian sighed helplessly. He looked at these two funny fellows and bade them goodbye before leaving to return to his room.

After returning to the room, Duan Ling Tian sat cross-legged on the bed and sensed the Origin Energy in his body that had undergone a transformation. He could not suppress the brilliant smile that crept up on his face.

"Seventh Level Void Interpretation!"

At the time of the breakthrough earlier, everything happened in a blink of an eye. It was so fast that he felt like it was merely a dream.

"Not only did I make a breakthrough to the Seventh Level Void Interpretation, I've also reached the bottleneck leading up to the Eight Level Void Interpretation. Soon enough, I'll be able to make another breakthrough to the Eighth Level Void Interpretation!" Duan Ling Tian's heart boiled with excitement when he thought about this. He was not able to calm for quite a long while.

"My cultivation base has made a breakthrough, my Spiritual Energy has also leveled up, way ahead of my Concepts. However, my Concepts will have a new breakthrough as well ten days later!" Duan Ling Tian's face broke out into a smile again when he thought about the Profound Assimilation Formation.

From what he could see, that Profound Assimilation Formation was exactly like a timely rain. Just when the Concepts that he had comprehended was in decline, an opportunity came knocking on the door.

"Ten more days... If I can make another breakthrough to the Eighth Level Void Interpretation during these ten days, it'll be amazing!" Duan Ling Tian did not hesitate anymore when he thought about this. Hastily, he shut his eyes and started to cultivate quietly.

Nine Dragons War Sovereign Technique, Sword Dragon Form!

The Origin Energy in Duan Ling Tian's body began to get agitated. Although it managed to drive a small dose of the Rebirth Pill's medicinal efficacy, the medicinal efficacy was no longer as tyrannical as it was previously.

"I've used external Origin and Spiritual Energy to stimulate the medicinal power of this Rebirth Pill, and now it has become like a bird that gets startled by the mere twang of a bow-string. It's would be almost impossible for it to be stimulated by these same methods anymore in the future." Duan Ling Tian was very clear about this.

Unless he consumed the Spirit Fruit so that the medicinal efficacy of the Spirit Fruit could help catalyze the medicinal force of the Rebirth Pill, he could only elevate his own cultivation base

so that the medicinal efficacy of the Rebirth Pill would be more apparent and improve his cultivation base faster.

Duan Ling Tian's current goal was to make a breakthrough to the Eighth Level Void Interpretation within these ten days.

However, as proven by fact, this was merely a goal. A dream would always be beautiful, and reality would always be harsh.

After ten days, the bottleneck that led to the Eighth Level Void Interpretation in Duan Ling Tian's body did not budge an inch at all.

"Duan Ling Tian!" A familiar voice resonated by his Duan Ling Tian's ear and woke him up from his cultivation. He could not suppress the sigh that came out of his mouth as he murmured, "Sigh, looks like I'm too greedy. Unless I have a spirit fruit with me, I'm afraid I'll probably need at least two to three months to complete my breakthrough otherwise!"

"It's already been ten days?" Duan Ling Tian asked curiously as he opened the room door. He saw Huang Daniu outside the door.

"You really forget the time when you cultivate, huh? Today's the day we're going to Gold Peak to enter the Profound Assimilation Formation. The Peak Master is already waiting for us," Huang Daniu laughed.

"Let's go," Duan Ling Tian nodded his head and rose up to the air along with Huang Daniu. Within seconds, he saw Qi Yu who was already waiting in the sky.

"Peak Master," Duan Ling Tian greeted.

Qi Yu nodded and smiled in response, "Let's go."

Before Duan Ling Tian and Huang Daniu could response, he lifted up a hand. A vast majestic and invisible force immediately swept out and enveloped Duan Ling Tian and Huang Daniu.

Duan Ling Tian and Huang Daniu's faces changed colors instantly

when they sensed the powerful force that was pressing down on them.

In the next moment, they sighed in relief when they noticed that the power that shrouded them quivered, but it did not hurt them at all.

"We're here," Qi Yu's voice entered their ears at the same time.

When they narrowed their eyes and looked ahead, the mountain peak before them looked familiar somehow. Both of them were equally stunned by this.

"G-Gold Peak?" Huang Daniu asked, his mouth was agape.

Just a moment ago he was still at Wood Peak, but he was already at Gold Peak in the next second?

Although the distance between the two Peaks was not too far apart, Huang Daniu was still completely taken by surprise when he was transferred here in just a blink of an eye.

'What a tremendously fast speed!' Duan Ling Tian narrowed his eyes as he exclaimed in surprise in his heart.

This Peak Master of Wood Peak was definitely not just at the Ninth Level Void Transformation. He had most likely reached the peak of the Void Transformation! Otherwise, it would be impossible for him to possess such a speed.

"We're slightly late," As if sensing something, Qi Yu smiled nonchalantly and led Duan Ling Tian and Huang Daniu to the platform on Gold Peak's hillside.

Duan Ling Tian followed closely behind. When they reached the gate of a huge palace on the platform, he finally knew why Qi Yu had said so.

At this moment, apart from Guo Chong, the Sect Leader of the Five Element Sect and his two direct disciples, the Peak Masters of Water, Fire and Earth Peaks were already inside the palace. There were two young people standing by each of their sides.

Duan Ling Tian and Huang Daniu walked side by side behind Qi Yu into the palace. At the same time, Duan Ling Tian looked around curiously at the surroundings. He discovered that the inside of the palace was filled with Inscription aura. It was obvious that the palace was covered with many Inscription Formations.

"Huh?" Duan Ling Tian suddenly raised his brows and looked at the spacious high platform inside the palace.

On that high platform, Duan Ling Tian's Spiritual Energy could sense a hint of the familiar aura of an Inscription Formation.

This was naturally the first time he personally sensed the aura. The reason why it was familiar was because the Rebirth Martial Emperor was familiar with this formation. Duan Ling Tian would undoubtedly find it familiar since he possessed the memories from the two reincarnations of the Rebirth Martial Emperor.

"The Profound Assimilation Formation!"

Duan Ling Tian had never thought that the Profound Assimilation Formation would actually be inside the palace. He could not help but immediately feel excited about this discovery.

"Hurmph! Qi Yu! You and your Wood Peak disciples sure are haughty! How dare you let the Sect Leader wait for you!" Cha Bai, the Peak Master of Fire Peak, immediately swept a cold glance at them and started mocking them the moment they entered the palace.

"Cha Bai, looks like you've forgotten the pain of your healed wounds, huh?" Qi Yu smirked in disdain, "Or perhaps, I've shown you too much mercy the last time? If you really want it, I can always let you be bedridden for several months."

A threat!

A bold and conspicuous threat!

Cha Bai turned pale and green at once upon hearing Qi Yu's words. Although he was enraged, he did not dare to do anything.

"S-Sect leader... Y-You see, how dare Qi Yu step on your head now!" Cha Bai took a deep breath. He knew that he was no match for Qi Yu. Instead of having a direct conflict with Qi Yu, he turned to Guo Chong and complained in anger.

Unfortunately, Guo Chong ignored his complaints and nodded towards Qi Yu before saying, "Since all of us are here, let us begin."

"The ten of you will go up to the high platform over there and sit down cross-legged. After you've settled down, you'll take out the Concept Fragments and start your comprehension process. 15 minutes later, I'll activate the Profound Assimilation Formation," Guo Chong announced unhurriedly as he swept a glance across the ten people, including Duan Ling Tian.

"After the Profound Assimilation Formation is activated, I'll put in several hundred pieces of Concept Fragments. At that time, these Fragments will be absorbed by the Profound Assimilation Formation and transform into Concept Energy that'll help you elevate your Concept quickly! As to what extent they'll be elevated... Well, that'll depend on your own comprehension and good fortune," Guo Chong finished in one breath.

The moment he finished his announcement, Nangong Chen and Nangong Yi who were by his side instantly flew upwards to the spacious high platform in the palace and sat down cross-legged with some distance between them.

Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh!

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Within seconds, the six people from Water, Fire and Earth Peaks had also gone up to the high platform one after another and sat down in a cross-legged pose.

Hu Fei narrowed his eyes as his chilly gaze swept across that

purple figure in the distance. He finally closed his eyes while he held a piece of Fire Concept Fragment in his hand. He cleared his mind and started comprehending immediately.

Tan Huan from Water Peak and Tian Zhen from Earth Peak also shut their eyes one after another as they began to comprehend their Concepts with the help of the Concept Fragments.

The three other young disciples from the other three Peaks also closed their eyes one by one.

"Daniu, let's go," Duan Ling Tian ignored Hu Fei's icy glare completely as he called out to Huang Daniu before flying towards the high platform in front together.

However, an inconspicuous smile was playing at the corner of his mouth. The smile contained hints of conspiracy in it.

Soon, Duan Ling Tian and Huang Daniu also sat apart in a cross-legged pose.

Within seconds, Huang Daniu entered the comprehension state while he held a piece of Earth Concept Fragment. He turned a deaf ear to everything around him.

Duan Ling Tian also shut his eyes and began to comprehend.

However, there were two Concept Fragments in his hands at the same time. They were the Wind and Thunder Concept Fragments.

It was a good thing that Guo Chong, the Sect Leader of the Five Element Sect, and the other four Peak Masters did not notice this at all. Otherwise, they would be startled by it as well.

In Cloud Continent, they had never heard of anyone who could rely on two different Concept Fragments to comprehend two different Concepts at the same time.

15 minutes had gone by without a sound.

In the eyes of the Peak Masters of the Five Peaks in Five Element Sect, the ten young people on the high platform had already entered the comprehending state. However, they did not notice that in actual fact, there was one person who did not enter that state at all.

That person was none other than Duan Ling Tian!

'It's going to be activated soon!' Duan Ling Tian took a deep breath. He was a little excited.

He was waiting, waiting for the moment the Sect Leader of Five Element Sect would finally activate the Profound Assimilation Formation.

Only then would he be able to integrate his Spiritual Energy smoothly into the Profound Assimilation and do the things that he wanted to do.

If he passed up this opportunity, he would not be able to tamper with the Profound Assimilation Formation anymore with his current Spiritual Energy.

Chapter 903: The Soul Skill is Gone!

Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh!

Suddenly, Guo Chong, the Sect Leader of the Five Element Sect made his move. He lifted a hand as four Origin Stones that were glistening brightly shot out and landed on the four corners of the spacious high platform.

Almost instantly after the four Origin Stones landed, the entire high platform burst out in a gush of white fog and started to shroud the ten young talented people on the platform.

It was obvious that was an Inscription Formation.

Or more accurately, the Profound Assimilation Formation

Swish!

Almost instantly after the four Origin Stones had landed on the four corners of the spacious high platform, the Spiritual Energy that had accumulated in the mind of Duan Ling Tian, who was sitting cross-legged on that high platform, suddenly burst out.

In just a second, the Spiritual Energy extended out along the various materials that formed the Profound Assimilation Formation and merged with the Formation seamlessly, like a fish in water.

'Okay, done! Now, let's wait for the several hundreds of Concept Fragments... As long as these Fragments touch the Profound immediately be Formation, Assimilation it'll refined and transformed into Concept Energy. Generally, people who're in this formation will not absorb more than 1% of the Concept Energy. However, with the current opportunity that I have, along with the Emperor's understanding of the Profound Martial Rebirth Assimilation Formation, I can get around 10% of the Concept Energy to elevate my Concept comprehension!" This was exactly what Duan Ling Tian was aiming for.

It was not that he did not want to extract all the Concept Energy that was refined by the Profound Assimilation Formation, but he could not do it at all. 10% was the limit that he had estimated with his current Spiritual Energy. After all, his Spiritual Energy was only at the Eighth Level Void Interpretation. It was still quite weak in the face of the Profound Assimilation Formation.

The requirement to arrange a Profound Assimilation Formation was to have at least Spiritual Energy at the Martial Monarch Stage or above.

Just with his meager Spiritual Energy, it was already amazing that he was able to snatch 10% of the benefits under the nose of the Profound Assimilation Formation. All of this was thanks to the Rebirth Martial Emperor's thorough understanding of the Formation. Otherwise, let alone snatching the benefits under the nose of the Profound Assimilation Formation, just the act of merging his Spiritual Energy with the Formation was already almost impossible.

"Huh?" Duan Ling Tian who was waiting patiently suddenly seemed to have sensed something as his eyes narrowed immediately.

At the same time, he could clearly sense that a wave of unknown Spiritual Energy was rushing towards him without any warning from the inside of the Profound Assimilation Formation. It ascended along his outstretched Spiritual Energy as it charged back towards him, all the way to his soul!

"SHIT!" Duan Ling Tian's expression changed instantly. "There's a Rebound Formation hidden in the Profound Assimilation Formation! Damn it!"

The Rebound Formation was a passive defense-type nonrecurring Inscription Formation. It was usually hidden inside a formation. It was a formation inside a formation.

Normally, this Rebound Formation would not have any

movement. However, once an Inscription Master's Spiritual Energy had merged with an Inscription Formation that contained a Rebound Formation, this Rebound Formation would immediately be triggered and become something like a mirror. The Inscription Master's Spiritual Energy would be replicated and reverted back to him all the way to his soul and hurt his soul.

Naturally, the condition was the Spiritual Energy of the Inscription Master who left behind the Rebound Formation must be stronger than the intruder's Spiritual Energy. Otherwise, the Rebound Formation would not be triggered at all.

At this moment, Duan Ling Tian was faced with an attack by the Spiritual Energy that was equally as strong as his own Spiritual Energy.

That wave of Spiritual Energy charged all the way towards the soul that was in the depth of his mind.

Although this level of Spiritual Energy was not enough to destroy Duan Ling Tian's soul completely, it could still inflict a heavy damage on his soul.

Wham!

The Spiritual Energy was very fast. Just as Duan Ling Tian figured out what was going on, it had already crashed on his soul viciously. It was as if it wanted to smash and break his soul completely.

Without any warning, Duan Ling Tian's soul quivered for a moment. It made Duan Ling Tian lightheaded immediately and he was barely conscious. It was to the point that he almost unconsciously retrieved the Spiritual Energy that had already merged with the Profound Assimilation Formation. Fortunately, Duan Ling Tian was able to respond in a timely manner and took back control of his Spiritual Energy. He managed to stop it from leaving the Profound Assimilation Formation.

Everything that he had prepared and done today would become useless if the Spiritual Energy left the already-activated Profound Assimilation Formation.

That was not something he wanted to see.

"Eh?" Just as Duan Ling Tian thought his soul would suffer a certain amount of injury, he discovered that his soul was completely safe and sound. The Spiritual Energy that had come crashing towards him earlier had also disappeared without a trace.

"What's going on?" Perplexed, Duan Ling Tian instinctively used another wave of Spiritual Energy to perform a check on his soul.

After Duan Ling Tian checked his soul, he was so shaken that his heart almost stopped beating from fear.

"T-The Soul... Soul Brand is g-gone?!" Duan Ling Tian was stunned. He was completely bewildered!

The Soul Brand that was in the depth of his soul — which was also the foundation for his Soul Skill Thousand Illusions — had completely disappeared from his soul.

Without the Soul Brand, he could no longer use the Soul Skill Thousand Illusions anymore!

'T-That Spiritual Energy! It must have destroyed m-my Soul Brand! I-It's also because the Soul Brand blocked that Spiritual Energy that my soul's still safe and sound,' Duan Ling Tian easily figured this out.

However, it meant that he no longer possessed the Soul Skill Thousand Illusions without the Soul Brand.

In the future, he could no longer use his Soul Skill Thousand Illusions to confront his enemy, and he could no longer create that mysterious Illusory Space and wrap his opponents around his little fingers.

At this moment, Duan Ling Tian was extremely upset and very

heartbroken.

The Soul Skill Thousand Illusions had accompanied him for a very long time.

All this while, it had saved him from many crises and had given him the ability to defeat the strong. It allowed him to defeat many martial artists who were way stronger than he was.

However, at this moment, the Soul Skill Thousand Illusion was no longer there. It had left him for good.

"Huh?" Suddenly, Duan Ling Tian's Spiritual Energy quivered for a second and startled him. In an instance, the fact that his Soul Brand was destroyed, and the Soul Skill Thousand Illusions had disappeared along with it was temporarily placed at the back of his mind.

At the same time, he could clearly feel the originally serene Profound Assimilation Formation had become agitated.

Needless to say, he could guess the reason why the Profound Assimilation Formation started to become agitated.

Guo Chong, the Sect Leader of the Five Element Sect, was finally going to throw several hundreds of Concept Fragments into the Profound Assimilation Formation.

'I can't change the fact that my Soul Brand and Soul Skill Thousand Illusion are already gone... What I need to do now is to seize this opportunity and make my four Concepts soar up to the top!' Duan Ling Tian quickly adjusted his feelings as he looked forward to the arrival of the several hundreds of Concept Fragments.

He knew very well that without the Soul Brand and the Soul Skill Thousand Illusions, he was nothing in front of the group of Five Element Sect young talented people, let alone the Nangong Twins from Gold Peak.

Even Hu Fei from Fire Peak could crush him easily.

Hu Fei was at the Seventh Level Void Interpretation, with a comprehension of the Seventh Level Intermediate Fire Concept.

As for himself?

Seventh Level Void Interpretation with a comprehension of Third Level Intermediate Wind Concept. The rest of the three Elementary Concepts added up together did not even exceed the strength of ten ancient horned dragons.

How could he compare with Hu Fei then?

Even if he used the Quasi Royal Grade Spirit Sword, he was still not a match for Hu Fei.

Although he was unwilling to admit this, there was no other option for him other than to admit it.

Without the Soul Skill Thousand Illusions, to a certain extent, he was merely a useless waste who had a cultivation base yet weak in strength. For this reason, he had to seize this opportunity this time!

If he did not seize the opportunity this time, he would definitely be stepped on by Hu Fei!

Was he willing to be stepped on by Hu Fei?

Of course not!

'This time, I must utilize the Profound Assimilation Formation to gain strength that would allow me to defeat Hu Fei and that Nangong Twins without the help of Soul Skill Thousand Illusions!' Duan Ling Tian's heart was full of longing and endless desire.

Duan Ling Tian's movements were completely shrouded by the Profound Assimilation Formation that had transformed into a blanket of fog. All of the Peak Masters in the Five Element Sect did not notice anything at all.

At this moment, Guo Chong, the Sect Leader of the Five Element Sect, who was also the Peak Master of Gold Peak, was standing before the high platform.

In the space in front of him, several hundreds of Concept Fragments were hovering in the air like it was being held up by an invisible force for a long time without moving at all.

Among these Concept Fragments, there were green, red, blue, purple and khaki colors.

The five colors of the Fragments represented the five Concepts of Nature: Wind, Fire, Water, Thunder, and Earth respectively. They were the Fragments that corresponded to Five different Concepts.

Of course, other than these five colored Concept Fragments, there were another two Concept Fragments that were emanating a powerful aura.

Subtle light could be seen gleaming on the surface of these two different Concept Fragments.

A part of the light solidified into a sword while the other solidified into a saber. They were the Sword and Saber Concept Fragments.

However, the Sword and Saber Concept Fragments were much fewer in number when compared to the Fragments of the five Nature Concepts, Wind, Fire, Water, Thunder, and Earth.

"Do any of you have the Concept Fragments of Sword and Saber? I remember that the Fifth Level Void Interpretation disciple from Fire Peak comprehends the Sword Concept, and the Fifth Level Void Interpretation disciple from Earth Peak comprehends the Saber Concept," Guo Chong asked slowly as he looked at the other four Peak Masters.

From his words, it was obvious that he found the amount of Sword and Saber Concept Fragments to be too little.

"I have 23 Sword Concept Fragments. The lowest grade I have is at Level 1, and the highest is at Level 4," Cha Bai, the Peak Master of Fire Peak, lifted his hand up and took out 23 pieces of Sword Concept Fragments.

"I also have 21 Saber Concept Fragments with me," Tian Gu, the Peak Master of Earth Peak, also took out 21 pieces of Saber Concept Fragments.

As for Qi Yu and Tan Huan, the Peak Masters of Wood and Water respectively, they did not show any sign of actions at all.

The Peaks in the Five Element Sect were originally in a competitive relationship. Naturally, they would not prepare any 'dowry' for the other sect disciples.

Moreover, whether it was Cha Bai or Tian Gu, the Concept Fragments that they took out were actually both beneficial to their own disciples. If they were asked to produce other Concept Fragments, they would certainly be unwilling as well.

"It's about time now." After Guo Chong took the Sword and Saber Concept Fragments from Cha Bai and Tian Gu, he put them together with the several hundreds of Concept Fragments that were in front of him. Without any warning, his eyes brightened up instantly.

Chapter 904: Ten Hours

The instance they heard Guo Chong's words, the other four Peak Masters' eyes lit up as well.

Whoosh!

Suddenly, Guo Chong raised a hand.

The several hundreds of Concept Fragments that were hovering in front of him instantly fell down towards the Profound Assimilation Formation that enveloped the entire high platform like rain.

Swish! Swish! Swish! Swish!

. . .

Pieces of Concept Fragments fell into the fog that shrouded the high platform and disappeared without a trace.

'It's coming!' Duan Ling Tian who was inside the Profound Assimilation Formation, and who had merged his Spiritual Energy with it, immediately noticed the appearance of the several hundreds of Concept Fragments.

After the Concept Fragments fell into the Profound Assimilation Formation, it was refined into waves and waves of Concept Energy by the Profound Assimilation Formation immediately.

In just a blink of an eye, the Concept Energy quickly spread out through the entire space of the Profound Assimilation Formation.

Duan Ling Tian whose eyes were opened could see the solidified Concept Energy clearly.

The Concept Energy could be divided into seven types. Five of them were green, red, blue, purple and khaki in colors. They were obviously the Energy that was made up of five different Nature Concepts: Wind, Fire, Water, Thunder, and Earth.

The other two types were colorless. However, a faint yet strong

solidified Qi neatly emanated out in their immediate surroundings. It was either the Sword or Saber Concept Energy.

It was obvious that the Energy was formed from both the Sword and Saber Concepts.

'What a pity that I only comprehend the Wind, Thunder, Earth and Sword Concepts. Otherwise, my gain this time would be even greater.' Duan Ling Tian took a deep breath as his Spiritual Energy began to move swiftly in the Profound Assimilation Formation. Following the memory of the Rebirth Martial Emperor, he tried his best to control the formation as much as he possibly could.

At the same time, the green, purple and khaki colored Concept Energy that were spread out in the Profound Assimilation Formation and the surrounding sword-shaped Qi Concept Energy each had one-tenth separated from their main bodies.

The four Concept Energy that were separated vibrated in the air before flying in the same direction.

The direction was exactly where Duan Ling Tian was located.

Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh!

The Concept Energy that originated from a large number of Wind, Thunder, Earth and Sword Concept Fragments each rushed into Duan Ling Tian's body.

At the same time, the surface of his body emitted four solidified Concepts that slowly became majestic and vast as time passed.

Those were the Wind, Thunder, Earth and Sword Concepts.

The four Concepts gradually became bigger as it slowly transformed. It was obvious that they were continuously digesting the four waves of Concept Energy that were entering Duan Ling Tian's body. As long as he could digest the four Concept Energy completely, all four Concepts would also be able to complete their final transformation.

When Duan Ling Tian was separating the four Concept Energy that he needed and let them enter his body, he could feel his Spiritual Energy, that had merged with the Profound Assimilation Formation and was about 90% depleted, suddenly quivered for a moment. It was as if it was going to be expelled out of the Formation soon.

'With the Spiritual Energy that I possess now, it's not enough for me to separate anymore Concept Energy. However, it's definitely more than enough for me to let a certain someone repel the Concept Energy in the Profound Assimilation Formation.' Duan Ling Tian moved his thoughts. The final little Spiritual Energy that was left pierced through the Profound Assimilation Formation again and issued the last command.

At the same time, the Spiritual Energy that Duan Ling Tian merged with the Profound Assimilation Formation was completely used up.

If Duan Ling Tian opened his eyes now, he would instantly see a red figure that was also sitting cross-legged inside the Profound Assimilation Formation in a distance that was not too far away. Hu Fei, the direct disciple of the Peak Master of Fire Peak, had an extra force of resistance around his body.

The moment this force of resistance appeared, the red Concept Energy that was originally by his side — the Concept Energy transformed by the Fire Concept Fragments — was completely repelled. It was unable to approach his body at all.

Right at this moment, the wave of red Concept Energy dissipated. It vanished swiftly out of sight.

The other eight people, on the other hand, were more or less absorbing the Concept Energy that they needed. However, the amount of Concept Energy that merged with their bodies was only about 1%.

The rest of the Concept Energy proceeded to vanish inside the

Profound Assimilation Formation. It was as if they had been swallowed up by the Profound Assimilation Formation.

Even just 1% of the Concept Energy was more than enough to allow the eight people to reap quite a great number of benefits.

Time passed by quietly.

An hour had gone by.

Two hours had gone by.

• • •

Outside of the Profound Assimilation Formation, outside of the high platform, the five Peak Masters of the Five Element Sect were waiting.

From the very beginning until now, their attentions were on the Profound Assimilation Formation. Anticipation could be seen in their eyes.

All of them were eager to find out exactly how many levels the young talented people of their own Peaks, who had entered the Profound Assimilation Formation, had managed to raise for their own Concept.

Five hours went by quickly.

However, the fog surrounding the high platform had yet to dissipate. It meant that the Profound Assimilation Formation was still running, and the Concept Energy that was transformed from the Concept Fragments had yet to be fully digested by the people inside.

"What's going on?" Yu Fang, the Peak Master of Water Peak, furrowed her brows together. "This doesn't seem right. I remember last time when we entered the Profound Assimilation Formation, we came out after three hours."

"I find it strange as well," Tian Gu, the Peak Master of Earth Peak, nodded his head. "It's a pity that it's almost impossible for my

Spiritual Energy to pierce through the Profound Assimilation Formation to see what's actually going on inside."

"There's only one possibility. Someone has yet to fully digest the Concept Energy in his body," Cha Bai, the Peak Master of Fire Peak, chimed in with a glum look on his face.

"Looks like this generation of disciples would bring a lot of surprises to us. The longer they stay inside, the more benefits they'll gain!" Guo Chong, the Peak Master of Gold Peak, who was also the Sect Leader of the Five Element Sect, exclaimed in surprise.

Qi Yu, the Peak Master of Wood Peak, was standing at the side with a face full of anticipation as well.

'Duan Ling Tian, could it be you?' He asked quietly in his heart.

Inside the Profound Assimilation Formation.

Although some of the young talents had completely absorbed and digested the Concept Energy and successfully elevated the Concepts that they comprehended, they were still temporarily unable to wake up due to the existence of the Profound Assimilation Formation.

Once they had entered the Concept comprehension state and were shrouded by the Profound Assimilation Formation, they would not be able to wake up if the Formation did not disappear.

This time, they could not even sense the transformations in the Concept that they had comprehended. Only when the Profound Assimilation Formation had completed disappeared would they be able to sense the changes in the Concept that they had comprehended and instantly wake up.

It was actually very easy to make the Profound Assimilation Formation disappear.

As long as the Concept Energy that was spread out all over the Profound Assimilation Formation and the Concept Energy that was inside the human bodies who were inside the formation completely vanished, the formation would disappear as well.

However, the only person who was still conscious in the Profound Assimilation Formation was Duan Ling Tian.

'How refreshing!' Duan Ling Tian was absolutely overjoyed when he could clearly sense the four Concepts that he comprehended was still continuously enhancing themselves.

'Originally, I need to spend at least 120 hours to fully digest these four Concept Energy. However, since I can simultaneously comprehend two different types of Concept Energy, I only need half of that time,' Duan Ling Tian thought to himself.

As for Huang Daniu and the others, they needed to spend three hours just to fully absorb and digest 1% of the Concept Energy.

He, on the other hand, needed thirty hours to fully absorb and digest 10% of one Concept Energy. Four Concept Energy would amount to 120 hours. However, because he could comprehend two different Concepts at the same time, it was more efficient for him as the time was reduced by half, which was 60 hours.

'Now, five hours have gone by.... I need 55 more hours.' As he thought to himself, Duan Ling Tian immersed himself in the feelings of having his four Concepts being elevated again. This kind of roller coaster-like feelings overwhelmed him with joy from the bottom of his heart.

Wind, sometimes gentle and sometimes swift.

Thunder, sometimes harmonious and sometimes violent.

Sword, sometimes calm and sometimes sharp.

Earth, allowed Duan Ling Tian to feel like he was united with the entire land underneath, moving as one.

In the Profound Assimilation Formation, Duan Ling Tian who was digesting the four Concept Energy and elevating the Concept

that he comprehended happily, was in an extremely good mood. How he wished this moment would last forever.

However, the five people who were outside the Profound Assimilation Formation were completely worried sick.

"It has been ten hours, but the Profound Assimilation Formation has yet to disappear! Nothing went wrong inside right?" Tian Gu asked while he made his own assumption.

"I don't think so," Yu Fang shook her head. "This Profound Assimilation Formation was arranged by a Martial Monarch Stage Inscription Master that our Five Element Sect's ancestor hired. It has never once caused a problem before, I'm sure there's no problem this time."

"B-But, this is just too long! In the history of our Five Element Sect, it only took the Profound Assimilation Formation three hours to finish every time we activated the Formation!" Cha Bai's face was a little glum when he frowned.

At this moment, even Guo Chong, the Sect Leader of Five Element Sect, no longer appeared as calm as he usually was. "Ten hours... what's actually happening inside?"

He quickly looked towards Qi Yu who remained calm, "Qi Yu, what do you think?"

"What can I think?"

Qi Yu shrugged and smiled faintly, "Now, what's the use if we panic? It's not like we can forcibly smash open the Profound Assimilation Formation and enter to have a look at our little fellows' conditions."

Tian Gu let out a wry smile after he listened to Qi Yu's words, "That's the Inscription Formation that a Martial Emperor had arranged. How's it possible for us to smash it open by force?"

"We've only mastered the activation method of the Profound Assimilation Formation but not the method to shut it off. According to the Senior Martial Emperor, as long as the Concept Energy has been fully absorbed and digested by the people inside, the Profound Assimilation Formation will shut off completely! It has always been like that all these while." Guo Chong frowned as he added, "However, this time, it's indeed a bit strange. Don't tell me that there's still somebody inside who still hasn't fully absorb and digest the Concept Energy yet? B-But, it has already been ten hours! If it's so, how high will his Concept be elevated?"

Chapter 905: Waiting

Guo Chong's words instantly reminded the other four Peak Masters, including Qi Yu. Astonishment could instantly be seen on their faces.

Indeed.

If there was still somebody who had not finished absorbing and digesting the Concept Energy that was contained in the Profound Assimilation Formation, how high would his Concept be elevated?

"T-This is almost impossible." Very quickly, as if he had come to some realization, Tian Gu shook his head as he frowned, "Since several thousand years ago when the Profound Assimilation Formation became popular in the entire country, there has never been a case of someone being inside for more than three and a half hours, let alone ten hours! It's usually only three hours more or less!"

"Perhaps, something has happened to the Profound Assimilation Formation," Tian Gu voiced out his speculation.

"You do have a point," Yu Fang who was standing by the side nodded her head. A hint of worries could be seen in between her brows. "If something has really happened to the Profound Assimilation Formation, they should be okay, right?"

The moment these words left her mouth, Guo Chong, Qi Yu and Cha Bai's faces immediately turned solemn.

Tian Gu's words earlier had struck a chord in them.

Now, after Yu Fang had said like this, they could not help but be worried, worried about the safety of their disciples who were inside the Profound Assimilation Formation.

Time went by quietly.

Just like that, a day had quickly gone by.

"It has already been a day and yet, there's still no movement at all! No! I'm going to break into the Profound Assimilation Formation!" After waiting for a day, Cha Bai could no longer bear it anymore as he flew out.

He lifted his hand and a Flaming Saber consolidated in his hand and slashed downwards with a howl.

Roar!

The Flaming Saber landed on the Profound Assimilation Formation viciously in fury. However, the moment it came in contact with the fog on top of the Profound Assimilation Formation, it vanished without a trace.

The fog on the Profound Assimilation Formation was like a fearsome beast with a bloody open mouth that swallowed the Flaming Saber whole.

"It's useless." Tian Gu shook his head when he saw Cha Bai was about to make another attempt. "That's an Inscription Formation that was arranged by a Martial Monarch Stage powerhouse. Moreover, it's also a Formation that requires a very high-level Spiritual Energy! Unless you're a Martial Monarch powerhouse yourself, you won't be able to break it open at all!" Tian Gu was an Inscription Master himself. He absolutely had the authority when it came to this respect.

For this reason, although Cha Bai's face was still pretty glum, he was no longer as hasty anymore after he heard Tian Gu's words.

"Peak Master Cha Bai, we understand your feelings." A helpless and wry smile could be seen on Yu Fang's face, "However, just like what Peak Master Qi Yu had said earlier, what we can do right now is wait. Wait for the Profound Assimilation Formation to disperse and for them to finally come out."

Cha Bai nodded his head before he swept a glance at Guo Chong and Qi Yu who were sitting cross-legged in the air below. He took a deep breath as he proceeded to sit in the air cross-legged as well. He would cultivate while he waited for his direct disciple, Hu Fei, to come out of the Profound Assimilation Formation.

Very soon, another day had gone by.

"There's still no movement at all." Qi Yu opened his eyes and glanced towards the Profound Assimilation Formation on the high platform not far away as he muttered, "Duan Ling Tian, Huang Daniu. Please don't let anything happen to that two little fellows. The future of Wood Peak still relies on the two of you."

After Qi Yu had seen Duan Ling Tian and Huang Daniu's strength, he had already treated the two of them as the main pillars of Wood Peak's future. Moreover, he even had the idea of grooming one of them into becoming the next Peak Master of Wood Peak as well.

Naturally, the reason why he chose only one of them was not because both of their talents were equal so it was difficult for him to decide. However, it was because he had a feeling that Duan Ling Tian would most likely not stay in the Wood Peak and the Five Element Sect in the future.

After all, he was a Variant, an existence that was well known in the Cloud Continent as God's Favourite. Such an existence would never be bound by the Five Element Sect.

The Five Element Sect could be considered as one of the three major forces in the eastern side of the northern desert. However, it could only be regarded as a tiny third-grade force by the border in the entire Cloud Continent. It was not worth mentioning at all in front of those genuine powerful forces.

As long as Duan Ling Tian was willing, he would not hesitate to regard him as the successor of the Peak Master of Wood Peak.

However, if Duan Ling Tian was unwilling, he would not insist on it and would choose the second best person, Huang Daniu, as the successor of the Peak Master of Wood Peak.

Although Huang Daniu was not as powerful as Duan Ling Tian, he was still much more outstanding compared to the other Wood Peak disciples.

"What? Are you worried about Duan Ling Tian and Huang Daniu?" Suddenly a familiar voice reverberated in his ear through Voice Transmission. He knew perfectly well who the owner of this voice was without having to turn around and look.

"Aren't you worried about your two beloved disciples too?" Qi Yu glanced at Guo Chong who was nearby and replied him with a question through Voice Transmission as well.

The moment Guo Chong heard this, he let out a wry smile immediately.

How could he not be worried?

Of course, he was worried!

For many years, he, who had no sons, had long treated his direct disciples as his own.

"Have you asked Duan Ling Tian before if he would be willing to continue to stay in our Five Element Sect in the future?" Guo Chong looked at Qi Yu and asked again with his Voice Transmission.

Before Qi Yu could answer him, he immediately added again, "If he's willing to stay in the Five Element Sect, let alone becoming the Peak Master of Wood Peak, I can even give him the Sect Leader's position in the Five Element Sect."

The instance Qi Yu heard his words, he could not help but be a little moved. "Then, how about your two direct disciples?"

"Them?" Guo Chong could not suppress his sigh when Qi Yu mentioned the Nangong Twins. "That two fellows have an ambition that's bigger than the sky! They've made up their minds

that after they leave that place, they'll leave the Five Element Sect to wander around and see the outside world together. Actually, their ambitions are not too bad. Moreover, they've stayed in the Five Element Sect since they were young and have never left before. It's not unusual for them to yearn to go out."

Qi Yu nodded his head.

"Their ambitions are just too huge so it's impossible for them to be the successor of the Sect Leader of Five Element Sect. If Duan Ling Tian is willing, I can pass on the Sect Leader's position to him without him having to join Gold Peak," Guo Chong added.

"You really think that Duan Ling Tian will be interested in the Sect Leader's position that even your two beloved disciples are not interested in?" Qi Yu shook his head. He paused for a moment before he continued in a solemn tone, "Don't forget, he's still a Variant!"

A Variant!

When Guo Chong heard Qi Yu's word, he became silent immediately.

That was right.

A Variant. What kind of existence was that? How could he possibly be bound by the Five Element Sect?

Even the top-class forces in the Cloud Continent would be willing to fight each other to death for a Variant to join them.

"I keep feeling like something's wrong with the situation in the Profound Assimilation Formation... By right, the Formation should not have any problem at all." Guo Chong quickly changed the topic as he looked at Qi Yu and asked, "What do you think? Is it possible that this actually has something to do with Duan Ling Tian? He's a Variant after all!"

"You're asking me? Who should I ask then?" Qi Yu rolled his eyes at Guo Chong. Looking at the way they were now, it did not feel

like he was talking to a Sect Leader at all. Instead, they looked like two ordinary brothers who were having a leisurely chat together.

Guo Chong turned quiet at once.

However, he was not bothered at all by Qi Yu's lack of formality.

In front of others, he might put on the haughty air of a Sect Leader in front of Qi Yu to show the prestige of a Sect Leader. However, he had never once considered himself as one when he was alone with Qi Yu. Instead, he would still treat Qi Yu like the Junior Brother who used to roam around with him last time.

At that time, he had saved Qi Yu's lives many times before, and Qi Yu had also saved his lives many times as well.

Although Qi Yu and he were not in the same Peak, not to mention that they were usually in a competitive relationship, they were still sworn friends who were ready to die for each other. That was engraved deeply into their bones

Presently, in the Five Element Sect, the friendship between the both of them was only known to themselves. Even the other Peak Masters of the three other Peaks did not know that they had such a friendship between them.

Otherwise, that Cha Bai, the Peak Master of Fire Peak, would not dare to intentionally instigate conflicts in the relationships between the two of them in front of Guo Chong, the Sect Leader of the Five Element Sect so blatantly.

If Cha Bai found out that the two of them had such a friendship between them, he would most likely be so enraged that he would throw up blood (literally!).

It turned out that all of his actions of wasting so much saliva was merely a big joke in the eyes of Guo Chong and Qi Yu.

"It has already been two days but the Profound Assimilation Formation has yet to disappear," Guo Chong sighed. "Let's wait for a while more. I have a feeling that we no longer have to wait for long anymore," Qi Yu responded.

"Alright," Guo Chong nodded and then continued to close his eyes to attain mental composure.

Following suit, Qi Yu closed his eyes and waited patiently as well.

Not long after the two of them closed their eyes, Cha Bai, who was hovering at the other side, slowly opened his instead.

Looking at the high platform that was shrouded by the Profound Assimilation Formation, he muttered to himself, "Hu Fei, with your achievement in the Fire Concept and the help of the Profound Assimilation Formation this time, you'll be able to comprehend the Ninth Level Intermediate Fire Concept right?"

From Cha Bai's words, it was obvious that he had great expectation for Hu Fei.

Not long after, Tian Gu and Yu Fang opened their eyes as well. After sweeping a glance at the high platform that was still shrouded in the Profound Assimilation Formation, they let out a soft sigh before closing their eyes again.

Time continued to pass by.

One hour.

Two hours

. . .

In just a blink of an eye, another seven hours had gone by.

Inside the Profound Assimilation Formation, a purple figure was sitting there. His body that was completely shrouded and intertwined with four solidified energies was emanating waves and waves of vast majestic aura.

This purple-clad young man was sitting there motionlessly like a mountain, and he resembled an eminent monk.

If one was to look closely, one would easily notice that two of the forces around the young man's body was being enhanced in a tremendous pace, and the other two energies were emitting a terrifying aura.

The terrifying aura was like a wind that was roaring, thunder that was bawling, and earth that was quaking...

Furthermore, there was another tyrannical aura that was intertwining and lingering around the purple-clad young man like a shadow. If somebody else was here, he would easily recognize this tyrannical aura in just a glance — it was the Sword Concept!

Moreover, it did not seem like a normal Sword Concept.

"The Concept Energies that are refined from the Earth and Sword Concept Fragments by the Profound Assimilation Formation are almost fully digested now! Five more hours to go!" The purple-clad young man, Duan Ling Tian, muttered to himself.

Chapter 906: Everyone Wakes Up

Five hours were not too long. Very soon, it had gone by as well.

When Duan Ling Tian felt the remaining Concept Energy had completely merged with the Concepts that he had comprehended and had raised his Concepts to a certain level, he abruptly opened his eyes.

"Huh?" At the same time, he noticed that the Profound Assimilation Formation started to whirl. He knew that the Profound Assimilation Formation was about to shut itself off now.

"An ordinary person can only stay in the Profound Assimilation Formation up to three hours at the most, but I'm actually already here for 60 hours. This is because I can divide my consciousness into two, allowing me to comprehend two different types of Concepts at once. Otherwise, I think I'll have to stay up to 120 hours!" As Duan Ling Tian thought to himself, he swept a glance at the other nine young people who were sitting cross-legged all around him. With a flash in his eyes, an idea began to form in his mind.

"I can't let anybody find out that I'm the reason the Profound Assimilation Formation ran continuously for 60 hours. Otherwise, once this matter has spread, I'm afraid there'll be countless of people who will come and ask me about the method to stay in the Profound Assimilation Formation for a longer period of time." Duan Ling Tian had given it quite some thought in this short period of time.

He converged and retrieved the four vast majestic Concepts that were emanating from his body and proceeded to shut his eyes again.

The Profound Assimilation Formation was about to shut down soon. What he was going to do now was to not give himself away and leave no traces behind.

Since there was a total of ten people in the Profound Assimilation Formation, even if there was somebody who was suspicious of him, there was no evidence for them to confirm it as long as he did not give himself away.

Outside of the Profound Assimilation Formation, in front of the high platform. The five Peak Masters who were sitting cross-legged in the air opened their eyes at the same time.

The reason why it seemed like they had a tacit understanding was due to the fact that they could feel movements from the Profound Assimilation Formation before them at the same time.

"This Profound Assimilation Formation is finally going to shut down," Tian Gu's eyes lit up as he exclaimed in surprise.

"It took a whole two and a half days! If we break it down into hours, that's sixty hours in total!" Yu Fang marveled.

A light flashed across Cha Bai's eyes as he slowly uttered, "Usually, those people who're inside the Profound Assimilation Formation can only stay up to three hours at the most! But the ten of them has been inside for 60 hours! How peculiar this is!"

"It's either something's wrong with the Profound Assimilation Formation or there's somebody in there who has been absorbing the Concept Energy for a full 60 hours! I can still accept the former but if it's the latter..." Guo Chong muttered to himself, but when he reached the end of the sentence, his eyes instantly glistened brightly.

Although Guo Chong's muttering was not loud, it was clearly heard by the other four Peak Masters who had the same thoughts as well. In the meantime, their gazes were locked firmly on the fog that was dissipating before them.

They wanted to know if it was true that somebody had been absorbing the Concept Energy for a whole 60 hours inside the Profound Assimilation Formation.

If it was true, how high would that person's Concept be raised up to?!

'Duan Ling Tian, could it be you?' Qi Yu murmured again in his heart. He kept having this feeling that Duan Ling Tian had something to do with the abnormal behavior of the Profound Assimilation Formation.

Perhaps, the reason he had this suspicion was due to the fact that Duan Ling Tian was a Variant.

The fog gradually dissipated, signaling that the Profound Assimilation Formation had already shut down on its own.

After the Profound Assimilation Formation was shut down, the fog on the high platform vanished without a trace, and all that was left were ten young men and women sitting cross-legged in various places. All of their eyes were closed, and there was no movement at all.

All five Peak Masters let out a sigh of relief when they saw their own Peak disciples were safe and sound.

Meanwhile, when they recalled the fact that the Profound Assimilation Formation only shut down after 60 hours, they could not help but sweep their glances over at the ten people on the high platform one by one. It was as if they were trying to figure out if was there any person who had absorbed a whole 60 hours of Concept Energy among them.

If that was true, even if that person had merely comprehended the First Level Void Interpretation Concept beforehand, he would have at least reached the Fourth Level Void Transformation Concept when he stepped out of the Profound Assimilation Formation.

They once had the honor of entering the Profound Assimilation Formation previously so they knew very well how much the Profound Assimilation Formation would help in enhancing a martial artist. Three hours were enough to raise one or two levels of a person's Void Interpretation Concept. Sixty hours were twenty times more than three hours. One could easily imagine just how much the person's Concept would be raised by continuously absorbing the Concept Energy for such long hours.

Due to this reason, they really wanted to know if there was really a person who could absorb such a huge amount of Concept Energy for a whole 60 hours among the ten young talents.

Or did the Profound Assimilation Formation went haywire?

Very quickly, the ten young talents who were sitting cross-legged on the high platform, including Duan Ling Tian, began to open their eyes one by one.

The moment they opened their eyes, slight confusion could be seen on all the ten faces.

It was the same for Duan Ling Tian as well.

In order not to give himself away, his response was almost similar to the other nine people.

Tian Zhen from Earth Peak stretched his limbs and frowned at the same time as he asked, "T-The time that we spent on comprehending this time... does not seem like three hours, or does it?"

"I also feel like we're inside for quite a long time," Tan Huan from Water Peak stood up and nodded as she agreed.

"At first, when I entered the comprehending state, I didn't feel anything but now... somehow it feels like it has been a few days. It definitely doesn't feel like three hours," Nangong Yi from Gold Peak added as well.

It was apparent they already knew beforehand that those people who enter the Profound Assimilation Formation would usually only stay for about three hours, never exceeding three and a half hours, before they entered the Profound Assimilation Formation.

There was quite a number of Profound Assimilation Formation in the Cloud Continent. However, nobody had stayed for more than three and a half hours before.

"Why three hours?" Perplexed, Huang Daniu asked.

"Yeah, indeed, why three hours?" Following suit behind Huang Daniu, Duan Ling Tian asked with a confused face.

At this moment, there was no doubt that he was pretending to play the fool. However, nobody could see through him at all.

"Peak Master Qi Yu didn't tell you?" Nangong Yi was a little stunned. Then, he proceeded to explain to Duan Ling Tian and Huang Daniu about the things that he knew about the Profound Assimilation Formation, "Whoever enters the Profound Assimilation Formation would normally only stay in there for three hours. So far, in the entire Cloud Continent, we haven't heard of anyone who is an exception at all," Nangong Yi finished in one breath.

"Ah, so it's like that," Duan Ling Tian and Huang Daniu finally understood.

However, Duan Ling Tian secretly snorted at Nangong Yi's logic.

If his Spiritual Energy was powerful enough to allow him to absorb all of the Concept Energy, he would definitely be able to stay much longer inside the Profound Assimilation Formation.

As for why other ordinary people could only stay up to three hours... Well, he naturally knew the reason behind it as well.

This was because those people could only absorb and digest 1% of a certain Concept Energy that was inside the Profound Assimilation Formation. No matter what level the person's comprehension was, it would only take that person three hours to fully absorb and digest that 1%.

Even if it was only 1%, it was naturally more than enough to help that person to elevate his Concept to a certain level.

"I also feel that I've spent more than three hours inside, a few days to be exact. Perhaps the Profound Assimilation Formation will make us feel like the time is stretched longer, and a day would feel like a year?" Frowning, Huang Daniu asked after contemplating it for a while.

At once, the ten young talents' eyes that were filled with questions landed on each of the Peak Masters of the Five Element Sect, wanting to get some answers from them.

"It's true that all of you have stayed for more than three hours inside. To be exact, all of you have stayed for two and a half days in there, which also amounted to 60 hours," Guo Chong, the Peak Master of Gold Peak, who was also the Sect Leader of Five Element Sect, slowly answered.

Two and a half days?

Sixty hours?

The moment Guo Chong finished his words, all the ten young talents could not help but be taken aback.

Naturally, this included Nangong Chen from Gold Peak as well.

Although his face remained aloof with not much changes, a hint of bafflement could be seen in the depth of his eyes. It was obvious that he was taken aback by his Master's words as well.

"M-Master, didn't you tell us that... martial artists in the Cloud Continent can only stay for a maximum of three hours when they enter the Profound Assimilation Formation? What's going on with this 60 hours?" Nangong Yi was the first to query. A look of confusion could be seen on his face. He could not fathom this situation at all.

Just like him, the other young talents were also feeling confused and puzzled as well. They were also staring at Guo Chong with a perplexed look, wanting to get some answers from him.

This, of course, included Duan Ling Tian as well.

Although he knew the reason why, there was no way for him to give himself away. In order to do that, he also had to feign ignorance just like the other nine people.

"Huh?" Suddenly, Duan Ling Tian could feel a gaze locked upon himself.

This gaze was eyeing him from the top to the bottom as if it was trying to see through him. As for the master of the gaze, Duan Ling Tian had already noticed it since the beginning.

It was the Peak Master of Wood Peak — Qi Yu.

"Peak Master, may I ask what are you doing?" Looking towards Qi Yu, Duan Ling Tian asked using his Voice Transmission as he looked at Qi Yu. A look of confusion could still be seen on his face.

"Duan Ling Tian, I remember that the Concept that you've comprehended earlier was at the Third Level Intermediate Wind Concept, am I right? I'm looking forward to the progress you've made after coming out from the Profound Assimilation Formation," Qi Yu's Voice Transmission entered Duan Ling Tian's ears clearly.

The word 'progress' was particularly emphasized on as if there was some meaning behind it.

Duan Ling Tian's heart leaped up instantly. 'Could it be that the Peak Master of Wood Peak has discovered something?'

'Impossible!' Duan Ling Tian quickly dismissed the thought. 'It must be because he thinks I'm a Variant so he suspects that I'm the person who prolonged the Profound Assimilation Formation's activated time from three to 60 hours."

When Duan Ling Tian thought of this, he became calm again and with a speed that was neither slow nor fast, he answered through Voice Transmission, "Peak Master, perhaps, there's one thing that you may not know... The Concept that I comprehended is not just the Wind Concept alone. More precisely, the Wind Concept is the

weaker one between the two Void Interpretation Concepts that I comprehended."

Duan Ling Tian did not find it weird that Qi Yu knew he had previously comprehended the Third Level Intermediate Wind Concept. In the beginning, when he and Huang Daniu first arrived in Wood Peak, he had gotten into a match before. At that time, his opponents were Luo Chen and Hong Xi who were now already dead. During the match, he had demonstrated his power that was at the Third Level Intermediate Wind Concept.

Many disciples from Wood Peak had seen that as well. It was not unusual that this fact had reached Qi Yu, the Peak Master of Wood Peak's ears.

Chapter 907: Demonstrating One by One

"WHAT?!"

Sure enough, a look of shock appeared on Qi Yu's face instantly the moment he heard Duan Ling Tian's Voice Transmission. "You... You've comprehended another Void Interpretation Concept as well?"

"Yes," Duan Ling Tian nodded in reply.

In the next moment, Duan Ling Tian shifted his gaze from Qi Yu and looked over to Guo Chong, the Sect Leader of Five Element Sect, again

Guo Chong finally answered Nangong Yi's question. "By right, you should've come out after being in the Profound Assimilation Formation for three hours. However, all of you have been there for a whole 60 hours this time. Let alone all of you, even we're puzzled and confused by this as well," he explained.

The instance the group of young talents heard his words, they were instantly struck dumb.

"However, there's one thing that we can be sure of," Guo Chong's eyes swept across each and every one of the ten young talents, including Duan Ling Tian, before he continued unhurriedly, "There are only two possible reasons for the Profound Assimilation Formation to continue running for 60 hours... One, there's something wrong with the Profound Assimilation Formation itself. Second, somebody has been absorbing the Concept Energy for the entire 60 hours." When he reached the end of his sentence, his eyes glistened brightly.

Absorbing a whole 60 hours worth of Concept Energy?

When the words left Guo Chong's mouth, the nine young talents, other than Duan Ling Tian, were gaping in astonishment.

If there was really somebody who had been absorbing the

Concept Energy for such a long time, how high would the Concept that he had comprehended be raised up to then?

Other than Duan Ling Tian, the nine young talents, including Huang Daniu, were completely thunderstruck.

Perhaps he could see through most of the young talents' thoughts, Guo Chong continued, "With the several hundreds of Concept Fragments that I put into the Profound Assimilation Formation earlier, if there really is somebody who had been absorbing the Concept Energy for a whole 60 hours, even if he has only comprehended the First Level Void Interpretation Concept before this, his Concept would be able to make a breakthrough to the Fourth Level Void Transformation Concept now that he's out of the Profound Assimilation Formation."

Fourth Level Void Transformation Concept! What kind of logic was that?

Among the group of young talents, the person who had comprehended the strongest Void Interpretation Concept was none other than the Nangong Twins from Gold Peak who had both comprehended the Eighth Level Void Interpretation Concept.

Eighth Level Void Interpretation Concept was equivalent to the strength of 90 ancient horned dragons.

Fourth Level Void Transformation Concept, on the other hand, was equivalent to the strength of 500 ancient horned dragons!

Although the Ninth Level Void Interpretation Concept and the First Level Void Transformation Concept was only a level apart, the gap between them was as wide as an abyss. The former had a strength that was equivalent to 100 ancient horned dragons while the latter had a strength that was equivalent to 200 ancient horned dragons.

Every time the Void Transformation Concept was raised up to another level, the strength would be raised up to another 100

ancient horned dragons.

"Who's that?" At once, the ten young talents, other than Nangong Chen, were looking around at each other as if they were trying to figure out the one who had managed to absorb Concept Energy for such a long period of time.

Who exactly was that freak?

Seeing the group of young talents eyeing each other, Duan Ling Tian undoubtedly followed suit as he pretended to feign ignorance.

"Then again, it does not necessarily mean that somebody has been continuously absorbing the Concept Energy for such a long time. Perhaps, it was the Profound Assimilation Formation that went haywire," Guo Chong added after he saw how the nine young talents were eyeing each other.

"Now, you must have more or less sense the changes in the Concept that you've comprehended. However, I'm sure you still can't confirm the level that your Concept is actually at right now," Guo Chong's gaze was trained intensely on the ten young talents in front of him as he continued, "Now, I'm going to call you out one by one, and all of you will demonstrate the Concept that you're comprehended. Show us the gains that you've obtained from the Profound Assimilation Formation this time."

The moment Guo Chong's words left his mouth, the other four Peak Masters' eyes immediately lit up.

Especially Qi Yu, the Peak Master of Wood Peak, who cast a meaningful glance towards Duan Ling Tian. A deep meaningful smile crept up on his face at once as if it was telling Duan Ling Tian, 'Kiddo, since you said that you've managed to comprehend two Void Interpretation Concepts, let me see what level the other Concept that you've comprehended is at.'

Duan Ling Tian had naturally noticed Qi Yu's gaze and could also guess the thoughts that were in his mind as well. However, he did

not seem to be bothered by it at all.

The reason why he said such words earlier was due to the faith that he had in himself. He believed that he would be able to mislead Qi Yu into thinking that he was not the person who had been absorbing the Concept Energy for 60 hours straight.

Although he had been absorbing the Concept Energy for 60 hours, it was not limited to one type of Concept only.

If he had been absorbing only one Concept for such a long period of time, then yes, just like what Guo Chong had assumed, his Concept would be elevated to the Fourth Level Void Transformation Concept or higher. However, when he was in the Profound Assimilation Formation earlier, he had absorbed four types of Concept Energy. He had spent thirty hours to fully absorb each of the Concept Energy.

Initially, he needed to use 120 hours to fully absorb four different Concept Energy. However, since he could separate his consciousness into two, he could comprehend two different Concept simultaneously, doubling the efficiency of the absorption.

Due to this reason, he only spent 60 hours to completely absorb the four Concept Energy. The four Concepts that he had comprehended also had great improvements.

"Hurmph!" Duan Ling Tian's gaze landed on Hu Fei and he snorted secretly.

After Hu Fei had come out of the Profound Assimilation Formation, his brows had been furrowed together. Duan Ling Tian had long noticed this since a while back. As for the reason, well, it was easy enough for him to guess.

'What's the matter?' Upon hearing Guo Chong announced that he wanted all of them to demonstrate their Concepts that had been elevated, Hu Fei hesitated slightly. This was because he could sense that the Concept that he had comprehended did not seem to have

any improvement at all compared to before he went inside the Profound Assimilation Formation. Naturally, he could not confirm whether it had leveled up or not without demonstrating it.

'According to Master, after I enter the Profound Assimilation Formation, even if I'm down on my luck, I'll still be able to further enhance my Fire Concept and comprehend the Eighth Level Intermediate Fire Concept!' Hu Fei started to ponder secretly, 'It's not even impossible for me to comprehend the Ninth Level Intermediate Fire Concept! After all, my Seventh Level Intermediate Fire Concept was just a step away from entering the Eighth Level Intermediate Fire Concept. Perhaps, my Fire Concept has already made its breakthrough, but since I just came out of the Profound Assimilation Formation, my senses are reacting a little slowly... Yeah, I think that should be the reason why.'

Hu Fei started to feel at ease as he thought about it this way. The brows that were furrowed together finally eased up.

From what he could see, even if he really was down on his luck, it would not be so terrible to the extent where he could not even raise a single level for his Fire Concept while he was inside the Profound Assimilation Formation. This was almost impossible.

However, it would never cross Hu Fei's mind —not even in his dreams — that Duan Ling Tian's existence could turn many of his 'impossibles' into 'possibles'.

'Don't tell me this Hu Fei still did not discover anything?' When Duan Ling Tian saw the relief expression on Hu Fei's face, he could not help but be taken aback. 'Is his response really that slow?'

Suddenly, Duan Ling Tian's attention was snatched back by Guo Chong's voice, "Let's start with you."

He saw Guo Chong was looking at the male disciple from Earth Peak and motioned him to demonstrate the Concept that he had managed to break through in the Profound Assimilation Formation. Apart from Tian Zhen, this male disciple was another one of Earth Peak's young disciple.

Upon hearing Guo Chong's words, this Earth Peak disciple dared not slack and immediately responded respectfully, "Yes, Sect Leader."

The male disciple instantly scrunched his face up, and his body emanated a gust of tyrannical aura that soared up to the sky as if it was about to tear everything in the air apart.

Everybody present could instantly see that a layer of solidified translucent aura had suddenly appeared on the surface of the Earth disciple's skin — that was a solidified Saber Qi.

The Saber Qi enveloped the Earth Peak disciple entirely and transformed into a gigantic sword that was about to soar up to the sky.

"Saber Concept!" Everybody present on the scene could immediately see the Concept that the Earth Peak disciple had demonstrated.

Whoosh!

At the same time, the Heaven and Earth Energy in the sky suddenly whirled and waves of vast Heaven and Earth Energy solidified together swiftly and formed the Heaven and Earth Phenomenon.

Silhouettes of ancient horned dragons began to appear.

There was a total of 70 of them.

"70 ancient horned dragons... the Sixth Level Intermediate Saber Concept!" Tian Gu's eyes lit up as he exclaimed in astonishment, "Good job, lad! I remember you were only at the Fourth Level Intermediate Saber Concept before you entered the Profound Assimilation Formation! With the help of the Profound Assimilation Formation, you've managed to raise two levels at once and actually comprehended the Sixth Level Intermediate Saber

Concept!"

"Hehe!" The Earth peak disciple chuckled before turning towards Tian Zhen by the side and said politely, "I'm sure Senior Brother Tian Zhen's must be much stronger than mine!"

"You little brat, are you trying to invite trouble for me?" Tian Zhen scolded jokingly, "Originally, mine was at the Fifth Level Void Interpretation Concept, but now that you've said it like this, what if I didn't make a breakthrough to the Seventh Level Void Interpretation Concept when I demonstrate my Concept later? You'd take the spotlight away from me, wouldn't you?"

"Senior Brother Tian Zhen, I'm sure you've already comprehended the Seventh Level Void Interpretation Concept!" The Earth Peak disciple quickly added.

Upon hearing their conversation, even the five Peak Masters could not help but chuckle a little.

Guo Chong smiled as he looked towards Tian Zhen and said, "Tian Zhen, I really would like to see whether he has taken away your spotlight or not! You go demonstrate the Concept that you've comprehended too."

"Yes, Sect Leader," Tian Zhen replied. Then, his solemn face began to turn a little nervous.

Although he could clearly sense that his Concept had a major transformation compared to before he entered the Profound Assimilation Formation, and he was sure that his Concept did indeed have a breakthrough, he had no idea exactly how high his level was raised up to.

It was only by fully demonstrating his Concept and stirring up the Heaven and Earth Phenomenon that he could be sure of the Concept level that he had comprehended.

"Ten days before, the Concept that Tian Zhen demonstrated in the Battle of the Five Peaks was at the Fifth Level Intermediate Wind Concept," Duan Ling Tian's eyes immediately fell on Tian Zhen.

The rest of the people were the same as well.

Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh!

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As the sound of the wind whistling soared up to the sky, gusts of green hurricanes fluttered around Tian Zhen like wind dragons that entwined his entire body.

Chapter 908: You're Bluffing!

Swish!

Along with the gusts of green hurricanes that appeared around Tian Zhen's body, the Heaven and Earth Energy quivered in the sky above his head. Gradually, the Heaven and Earth Phenomenon started to solidify into form.

Silhouettes of ancient horned dragons began to take form as well.

Ten.

Twenty.

Thirty.

• • •

The number kept increasing.

Finally, the number stopped at 80 dragons.

"Seventh Level Intermediate Wind Concept!" The crowd's eyes were slightly astonished when they saw Tian Zhen's concept.

After all, breaking through to the Seventh Level Intermediate Wind Concept from the Fifth Level Intermediate Wind Concept was not as easy as entering the Sixth Level Intermediate Wind Concept from the Fourth Level Intermediate Wind Concept.

Tian Zhen finally let out a sigh of relief after he made sure that he had indeed comprehended the Seventh Level Intermediate Wind Concept.

"Excellent! Excellent!" Seeing the huge progress that his son made, Tian Gu let out a wide smile.

With a complicated look, Yu Fang cast a glance at Tian Gu and forced a smile as she congratulated him, "Congratulations, Peak Master Tian Gu."

"Thank you, Peak Master Yu Fang. I believe that Tan Huan has

comprehended the Seventh Level Void Interpretation Concept as well, just like my useless son here," Tian Gu smiled in response.

"Thank you for the blessing," Yu Fang nodded her head. Then, with an anticipatory look, she turned towards Tan Huan instead.

At this moment, Tan Huan who could feel Yu Fang's eyes on her, had beads of sweat forming on her forehead.

The feelings that she had right now was exactly the same feelings that Tian Zhen had earlier. Although she could faintly feel that the Water Concept that she had comprehended had been elevated, she still did not know exactly how much progress it had made.

"Tan Huan." After hearing the conversation between Tian Gu and Yu Fang, along with Yu Fang's gaze, everybody's eyes instantly fell on Tan Huan. At the same time, Guo Chong looked at her as well.

"Yes, Sect Leader," Tan Huan responded. The water vapors on her body started to spread out and transformed into a series of turquoise ripples — that was the Water Concept that she had comprehended.

Turquoise ripples intertwined with her body and transformed into an aqua blue halo that shrouded her entire body.

Meanwhile, the Heaven and Earth Energy in the sky started to fluctuate and finally came together to form silhouettes of ancient horned dragons.

Finally, the silhouettes of the ancient horned dragons in the Heaven and Earth Phenomenon stopped increasing.

"Seventh Level Intermediate Water Concept!"

Looking at the 80 silhouettes of the ancient horned dragons on top of Tan Huan's head, the crowds' eyes shone with glee.

Tan Huan's progress was the same as Tian Zhen's.

Seeing that she had comprehended the Seventh Level Void Interpretation Concept as well, Tan Huan let out a sigh of relief before smiling at Yu Fang, "Master, I've succeeded!"

Yu Fang nodded her head in satisfaction.

After Tan Huan, Guo Chong called out the name of the other female disciple from Water Peak.

This female disciple had also comprehended the Water Concept, and before she entered the Profound Assimilation Formation, she had only comprehended the Third Level Intermediate Water Concept.

At this moment, after coming out of the Profound Assimilation Formation, she had comprehended the Fifth Level Intermediate Water Concept.

"You!" Next, Guo Chong called out to the other male disciple from the Fire Peak that came with Hu Fei.

Just like the male disciple from Earth Peak, the Concept that this Fire Peak disciple had comprehended was raised by two levels from the Fourth to Sixth Level.

"Hu Fei!" Soon after that, Guo Chong looked at Hu Fei.

The moment Guo Chong called out Hu Fei's name, Duan Ling Tian's eyes immediately lit up. A small smirk crept up to the corner of his mouth. The smirk that was full of cynicism.

When they were still in the Profound Assimilation Formation, he had used his Spiritual Energy to control the Profound Assimilation Formation and ripped out 10% of the four Concept Energy that he needed. Due to that, the Spiritual Energy that he had merged with the Profound Assimilation Formation had become more or less depleted.

At that time, he had used the remaining Spiritual Energy for one final task and issued a simple command to the Profound Assimilation Formation.

The command was to prevent Hu Fei from touching the Concept

Energy that he needed!

In other words, when they were in the Profound Assimilation Formation, other than Duan Ling Tian who had obviously gotten the biggest gain, the other eight people had gotten significant benefits from it as well. However, Hu Fei was the only one who did not get any benefits at all!

Due to Duan Ling Tian's foul play, Hu Fei who had entered the comprehension state in the Profound Assimilation Formation was no different from when he was comprehending outside of the formation.

'I really can't wait to see the expression on his face when he discovers that his Fire Concept has no improvement at all!' Duan Ling Tian thought in his heart as the smile that was playing on the corner of his mouth turned wider.

Huang Daniu who was standing by Duan Ling Tian's side happened to see the smile lingering on the corner of his mouth. With his Voice Transmission, he asked curiously, "Duan Ling Tian, what are you smiling at?"

In the meantime, Huang Daniu looked towards the direction Duan Ling Yian was looking at under the urging of his curiosity. His eyes landed on Hu Fei who just had his name called out by Guo Chong.

"Does it have anything to do with Hu Fei?" Huang Daniu asked.

"It's nothing," Duan Ling Tian shook his head and replied via Voice Transmission.

However, Huang Daniu refused to believe him. His eyes were locked firmly on Hu Fei. Something told him that Duan Ling Tian was hiding something from him.

His intuition told him that something must be going on with Hu Fei.

After Hu Fei was called out by Guo Chong, everyone focused their

eyes on him, making him the spotlight of the entire scene.

Hu Fei was the direct disciple of the Peak Master of Fire Peak. In the Five Element Sect, a group of Five Element Sect's disciples had secretly given him a nickname — Ungrateful Bastard.

Although it had been ten years since Hu Fei switched to join Fire Peak and betrayed his master whom he was indebted to for saving his life, and Wood Peak that had trained him into who he was now, he was still being held in contempt by the Five Element Sect's disciples.

However, Hu Fei's talent and comprehension were notorious in the Five Element Sect, just a level lower than that of the Nangong Twins from Gold Peak, even though his reputation was not very good.

Yu Fang smiled as she asked Cha Bai, "Peak Master Cha Bai, your Hu Fei has always been second only to the Nangong Twins from Gold Peak among the younger generation of the Five Element Sect. Before this, he already has a comprehension at the Seventh Level Intermediate Fire Concept. I'm sure it's not a problem for him to enter the Ninth Level Intermediate Fire Concept after coming out of the Profound Assimilation Formation right?"

"Peak Master Yu Fang, you can't say it like that," Just as a smile appeared on Cha Bai's face and he was about to answer Yu Fang's question, Tian Gu suddenly chimed in without warning, "What you said is outdated. Now, among the younger generation of the Five Element Sect, we have the addition of Duan Ling Tian and Huang Daniu remember? Their talents are definitely not inferior to Hu Fei's."

Duan Ling Tian!

Huang Daniu!

The moment Tian Gu's words left his mouth, Yu Fang was stunned for a moment. Then, she quickly looked at Duan Ling Tian

and Huang Daniu before smiling sheepishly, "Ah, I've completely forgotten about them."

Cha Bai's face turned glum immediately.

Although he did not like what Tian Gu said, he could not refute it because that was indeed an indisputable fact.

Just as most of the people shifted their attention to Tian Gu and Yu Fang's conversation, Cha Bai announced loudly without warning. From his words, it was obvious that he had full confidence in Hu Fei. "Before Hu Fei entered the Profound Assimilation Formation, the Fire Concept that he comprehended was just a step away from the Eight Level Intermediate Fire Concept. After coming out from the Profound Assimilation Formation this time, I'm sure he has already comprehended the Ninth Level Intermediate Fire Concept!"

Sure enough, the moment Cha Bai's words came out of his mouth, everyone shifted their attention back to him.

"Congratulations, Peak Master Cha Bai!" Yu Fang congratulated Cha Bai.

"Congratulations!" Guo Chong and Tian Gu also congratulated him.

All eyes immediately turned towards Hu Fei again. Guo Chong smiled as he announced, "Hu Fei, you can begin now."

Hu Fei nodded his head. From around his body, faint flames started to appear and gradually solidified.

"Wait a minute!"

Right at this moment, a loud voice resonated and shocked Hu Fei so much that he shuddered for a second. The flames that were rising from around his body that had yet to solidify completely were extinguished instantly.

Everyone, including Hu Fei, immediately shifted their attention to the direction where the voice came from.

Over there a young man stood proudly. A purple-clad young man.

"Duan Ling Tian, what're you doing?" Hu Fei's face darkened instantly as rage started to fill his eyes.

Originally, when his master had said such confident words about him, although he was still feeling somewhat anxious, he decided to summon up his courage and was ready to demonstrate his Fire Concept. From what he could see, since everyone had made such a huge progress as well, there was no reason for him to be the exception.

Due to this reason, he was confident that he had comprehended the Ninth Level Intermediate Fire Concept. Although he could feel that his Fire Concept was no difference from before he entered the Profound Assimilation formation, in his mind, that was only because he just came out of the Formation and his body was still not fully adjusted.

"Qi Yu, is this how you educate the disciples of Wood Peak?" Cha Bai scoffed as he swept a cold glance at Duan Ling Tian before he looked at Qi Yu.

Perplexed, Qi Yu looked towards Duan Ling Tian and ignored Cha Bai completely.

"Duan Ling Tian, is there anything?" Guo Chong frowned.

Duan Ling Tian's loud cry earlier was also equivalent to interrupting himself. He could not suppress the displeasure that rose up in his heart.

"I'm sorry, Sect Leader. I just want to have a few words with Peak Master Cha Bai. I'll feel suffocated if I don't get this off my chest," Duan Ling Tian flashed an apologetic smile at Guo Chong before he turned to look at Cha Bai.

Right away, everyone, including Guo Chong, shifted their

attention to Cha Bai. They were curious about the thing that Duan Ling Tian wanted to say to him.

"What do you want to say?" Cha Bai's face was very glum.

"Peak Master Cha Bai, it's like this. I'm a person who can't tolerate any lies in front of me. Just now you said that Hu Fei has comprehended the Ninth Level Intermediate Fire Concept right? However, I don't believe this at all. I think that you're just bluffing." In the beginning, Duan Ling Tian's tone was still fairly calm, but his tone was filled with the smell of gunpowder as he came to the end of his sentence.

Bluffing!

The moment Duan Ling Tian finished his sentence, everyone on the scene became completely dumbfounded.

Did this Duan Ling Tian just accuse Cha Bai, the Peak Master of Fire Peak, of bluffing?

The words that he really had to get off his chest was actually this?

Everyone, including Qi Yu, began to shift their attention back to Duan Ling Tian. All they could think about at this moment was how brave this Duan Ling Tian was.

Cha Bai was still the Peak Master of Fire Peak no matter what. Right now, in front of so many people, Duan Ling Tian had just accused Cha Bai and said that he was bluffing!

Provocation!

What a blunt provocation!

"How dare you?!" Cha Bai's face turned dark immediately as he roared in fury.

"Peak Master Cha Bai, I'm a person who really can't tolerate even a small unreasonable thing. I'm sorry if I've accidentally offended you," Duan Ling Tian smiled nonchalantly as he looked at Cha Bai.

Chapter 909: A Bet

Duan Ling Tian spoke again. It terrified everyone present on the scene, except for Cha Bai and his disciple.

What the hell was this Duan Ling Tian doing?!

Apart from Huang Daniu who looked like he was deep in his thoughts and Nangong Chen who still looked aloof, the other eight disciples from Five Element, including Nangong Yi, felt chills creeping down from their heads.

Obviously, they were all shocked to the core by Duan Ling Tian's words.

Even Nangong Yi, the rightful direct disciple of the Sect Leader of Five Element Sect, did not have the courage to provoke Cha Bai, the Peak Master of Fire Peak.

"Duan Ling Tian, you're going to hell!" After being provoked multiple times by Duan Ling Tian, Cha Bai who was absolutely furious had a frosty look on his face. His eyes were horrifyingly icy as if he was going to devour a certain somebody.

"Peak Master Cha Bai, are you flying into a rage because you're embarrassed?" Faced with Cha Bai who was enraged, Duan Ling Tian still remained calm and collected as he said nonchalantly, "Or perhaps, you genuinely think you're not bluffing and I'm making baseless accusations instead?"

When he heard Duan Ling Tian's words, Cha Bai snorted in disdain as he asked, "Isn't that the case?"

"Peak Master Cha Bai, if you think that you're not bluffing, and I'm making baseless accusations, let's have a bet, shall we?" An undetectable glint flashed across Duan Ling Tian's eyes. However, his tone remained calm and cold without any emotions in it.

"A bet?" The moment they heard Duan Ling Tian's words, everyone, including Cha Bai and Hu Fei, could not help but be

stunned by it.

"Why do I have to bet with you?" Cha Bai instantly swept a cold glance at Duan Ling Tian disdainfully as he mocked, "Are you even qualified?"

Duan Ling Tian laughed out loud. After he stopped laughing, he mocked in an outrageous manner, "Hahaha! Looks like you dare not, huh, Peak Master Cha Bai?"

"Do you think your taunts would be useful against me?" Cha Bai, the Peak Master of Fire Peak in the Five Element Sect, had been respected for more than half of his life. What kind of situation had he not seen before? With just one sentence, he had unraveled Duan Ling Tian's intention. His tone was full of disdain.

After Duan Ling Tian's intention was unraveled, not only was he not angry, he continued to ask again in a joyful manner, "Then what if I bet with you that Hu Fei did not even manage to comprehend the Eighth Level Intermediate Fire Concept at all?"

"The Eighth Level Intermediate Fire Concept?" Cha Bai was taken aback. After a while, he began to laugh loudly, "Are you kidding me? Hu Fei, my direct disciple, is originally only a step away from comprehending the Eighth Level Intermediate Fire Concept. Now that he's out of the Profound Assimilation Formation, you're telling me that he has yet to comprehend the Eighth Level Intermediate Fire Concept?" As he said this, Cha Bai looked at Duan Ling Tian with a sneer as if he was looking at God's biggest joke.

Duan Ling Tian did not answer Cha Bai's question. Instead, he continued to say nonchalantly, "I'll bet with you that if Hu Fei's Fire Concept does not have any elevation and is still in the Seventh Level Intermediate Fire Concept, you'll have to give me a piece of Seventh Level Thunder Concept Fragment. However, if Hu Fei's Fire Concept has been raised up to the Eighth Level Intermediate Fire Concept, I'll switch Peak and become a disciple of Fire Peak

instead. Moreover, I'll swear upon the Nine-Nine Heavenly Tribulation that I'll never betray you for the rest of my life. How's that?"

Duan Ling Tian's words had clearly entered Hu Fei's ears. It stunned him for a moment as if he was hit by some realization.

'Could it be that my Fire Concept is really like what I've sensed? It really did not improve at all?" Hu Fei's heart jolted as an ominous premonition slowly rose up in his heart.

"I-If... even if that's true, how did this Duan Ling Tian know about it?" Hu Fei was completely baffled in this regard.

From what he could see, that Profound Assimilation Formation was left behind by a Martial Monarch powerhouse. It was something that was absolutely marvelous. Almost everybody who had entered it would gain great benefits from it. By right, he should not be excluded as well.

Even if he really was excluded, how did this Duan Ling Tian actually find out?

Duan Ling Tian's words were not only heard by Hu Fei. It was heard by Cha Bai, Qi Feng, and the rest of the people who were present as well.

Duan Ling Tian wanted to have a bet with Cha Bai that Hu Fei's Fire Concept was not elevated at all and still remained at the Seventh Level Intermediate Fire Concept even after he had come out from the Profound Assimilation Formation. However, if Hu Fei had a breakthrough, he had a lot more to lose!

If he won, he would gain a piece of Seventh Level Thunder Concept Fragment from Cha Bai. However, he would give himself away to Cha Bai, to Fire Peak, and swear by the Nine-Nine Heavenly Tribulation that he would never betray Fire Peak for the rest of his life if he lost!

An uproar erupted right away,

Other than Qi Yu and Huang Daniu who were lost in their thoughts, the rest of the people, including Guo Chong, the Sect Leader of the Five Element Sect, were agape.

In their opinions, Duan Ling Tian would definitely lose the bet that he had just made with Cha Bai.

"Perhaps, this Duan Ling Tian actually doesn't want to stay in Wood Peak and wants to switch to Fire Peak instead. Maybe this bet is just an excuse."

"Peak Master Cha Bai must have made some serious promises to Duan Ling Tian and asked him to switch to Fire Peak. That must be why he's tempted to do it now... It's just that he finds it difficult to blatantly betray Wood Peak, and he's scared that he'll become the second Hu and would be looked down by other people. That's why he's using this method to switch to Fire Peak instead."

The Five Element Sect's disciples who were present at the scene, including Tan Huan and Tian Zhen, could not help but wonder secretly.

Not only that, they really could not figure out why Duan Ling Tian would take the initiative to make such bet with Cha Bai. After all, it's apparent that he was the one going to lose this bet.

Hu Fei had originally comprehended the Seventh Level Intermediate Fire Concept. Not to mention the fact that he was only just a step away from entering the Eighth Level Intermediate Fire Concept before he entered the Profound Assimilation Formation.

Even if he had just comprehended the Seventh Level Intermediate Fire Concept right before he entered the Profound Assimilation formation, he would still definitely be able to comprehend the Eighth Level Intermediate Fire Concept after he left the Profound Assimilation Formation.

However, at this moment, Duan Ling Tian actually said that Hu

Fei still remained at the same spot in his Concept comprehension and that he was still at the Seventh Level Intermediate Fire Concept even after he got out of the Profound Assimilation formation.

This was almost impossible!

Only Qi Yu and Huang Daniu were looking at Duan Ling Tian from afar while they were absorbed in their own thoughts.

'What is Duan Ling Tian planning to do? Looking at Hu Fei's expression right now... Don't tell me...' Qi Yu observed carefully. Very soon, he noticed something was wrong with Hu Fei's expression. His heart jolted for a moment.

The scene that was unfolding before his eyes made him feel even more certain that Duan Ling Tian was purposely luring Cha Bai into his own grave. His intention was to obtain the Seventh Level Thunder Concept Fragment from him.

"This little fellow! If you really need that Thunder Concept Fragment, you can just tell me, you know. Hmm, looks like he doesn't want to owe me any favor," Qi Yu muttered to himself. By the time he was done, he could not help but let out a sigh.

"I knew it! The smile on Duan Ling Tian's face earlier didn't seem right at all. It's fishy indeed!" Huang Daniu stared at Duan Ling Tian with a knowing smile at the corner of his mouth. He had an expression that seemingly said, "I knew it! I, your Brother Niu, have long seen through you!".

Cha Bai was dazzled by Duan Ling Tian's words. After a moment of silence, he finally regained his senses. His eyes glistened brightly as he stared at Duan Ling Tian before he asked in a loud voice, "A-Are you serious?"

He had to admit that he was indeed very displeased with Duan Ling Tian before this. However, that was because Duan Ling Tian had humiliated his direct disciple, Hu Fei. If Duan Ling Tian was a disciple of Fire Peak, he would not resent Duan Ling Tian at all even if he had humiliated his direct disciple, Hu Fei. Instead, he would be proud that his Fire Peak had a protege that was more outstanding than his direct disciple.

At this moment, Duan Ling Tian just said that he would become his disciple and switch to Fire Peak if his direct disciple, Hu Fei, had comprehended the Eight Level Intermediate Fire Concept or higher. Moreover, he was willing to swear by the Nine-Nine Heavenly Tribulation and never betray his Fire Peak for the rest of his life! For a moment, Cha Bai was completely overwhelmed with joy. It was to the point that he did not even consider why Duan Ling Tian would make such an absurd bet, why he was willing to sacrifice his entire life just to bet for a Seventh Level Thunder Concept Fragment.

At this moment, he only knew that he would win without a doubt. Duan Ling Tian would then have to switch over to Fire Peak. Perhaps, it was because of this reason that Duan Ling Tian decided to use himself as the bargaining chip.

Faced with Cha Bai's loud question, Duan Ling Tian nodded his head and responded with a question while putting on a doubtful look, "That's right! I wonder if you dare to bet with me, Peak Master Cha Bai?"

"Since you already have the intention to switch to our Fire Peak, why would I refuse it? Duan Ling Tian, don't you worry. As long as you come to our Fire Peak, Hu Fei and I will put all our disputes with you behind us and will not bring it up again. Not only that, I promise you that Fire Peak will never mistreat you!" Cha Bai, who was so overjoyed that he did not see the bigger picture, answered with a smile.

It was apparent that Cha bai had agreed to Duan Ling Tian's bet.

"Alright," Duan Ling Tian smiled as well. It was a brilliant and wonderful smile.

"Wait!" At this moment, Cha Bai's face suddenly scrunched up as he cried out loudly without any warning.

"Huh?" Duan Ling Tian frowned. Could it be that Cha Bai finally came to his senses?

Or perhaps it was Hu Fei who came to his senses and told him everything, causing him to have a change of heart suddenly?

In the next instance, Duan Ling Tian knew that he had been thinking too much.

"Sect Leader, please be the witness to the bet between Duan Ling Tian and me!" In the midst of his joy, Cha Bai did not forget to find Guo Chong, the Sect Leader of the Five Element Sect, to be his witness.

He did that not because he was afraid Duan Ling Tian would go back on his words. However, he was afraid that Qi Yu would intervene afterward.

He was very clear about Qi Yu's strength. He knew that he was definitely not a match for him.

If Qi Yu really wanted to bring Duan Ling Tian who had already switched to Fire Peak back to Wood Peak, he really could not stop Qi Yu at all. In the end, everything would be in vain.

Guo Chong frowned as he looked at Qi Yu immediately as if trying to ask for his opinion.

Qi Yu nodded his head.

Guo Chong complied with Cha Bai's wishes when he saw Qi Yu nodding his head. He immediately turned to look and shouted at Hu Fei who was lost in his own thoughts while he stood in the distance, "Hu Fei!"

However, Hu Fei did not respond at all. He just stood there motionlessly like he was possessed.

"Hu Fei!"

Cha Bai became anxious right away when he saw that Hu Fei still did not respond.

Slap!

With just a few steps, Cha Bai walked forward and slapped him on the back of his head. It woke him up from his thoughts.

After Hu Fei finally came to his senses, the first thing that entered his sight was Cha Bai who was standing before him. He hastily cried out in response, "Ma... Master!"

"What are you waiting for? Show your Fire Concept now!" Cha Bai roared as he glared at him anxiously. His voice as loud as thunder.

Chapter 910: A Hysterical Hu Fei

At this moment, Cha Bai was on tenterhooks. He feared that Duan Ling Tian would regret the bet after Hu Fei had demonstrated his Fire Concept.

If Duan Ling Tian went back on his words, Fire Peak would lose a freak disciple who could help raise Fire Peak to become the First Peak of the Five Element Sect three years later!

"Yes, yes!" Hu Fei, who had suddenly heard Cha Bai's scolding, shuddered in shock. His mind was completely blank. With no time to think too much into it, he hastily nodded his head. He no longer dared to hesitate.

Meanwhile, flames started to solidify into form from his body and rose up into the air. Then, it proceeded to envelop his entire being. It made him look just like a Fire God.

Whoosh!

Concurrently, the Heaven and Earth Energy began to fluctuate in the sky as the Heaven and Earth Phenomenon gradually solidified and formed silhouettes of ancient horned dragons that emerged in front of everybody.

All of them, including Duan Ling Tian, immediately stared intensely at it.

"Duan Ling Tian will definitely lose." This was the thought that was in almost everyone's minds.

Although Duan Ling Tian was the one who proposed the bet, they did not think he could win at all. They believed that Duan Ling Tian had been persuaded by Cha Bai, the Peak Master of Fire Peak, to leave Wood Peak and switch to Fire Peak. As for that bet, it was just a pretense to fool everybody.

Only a few appeared to be absorbed in their thoughts.

The first ones were naturally Qi Yu and Huang Daniu, followed by Guo Chong, the Sect Leader of the Five Element Sect, and Nangong Chen, his direct disciple. Both of them had a surprised yet doubtful look in their eyes.

Obviously, they could sense that things were not as simple as it seemed.

Very quickly, the silhouettes of the ancient horned dragons on top of Hu Fei's head gradually solidified into shape. The numbers kept increasing.

Ten.

Twenty.

Thirty.

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Not long after, the number of the ancient horned dragons ceased to increase. The silhouettes of the ancient horned dragons circled around before they descended, coming into the views of the spectators clearly.

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"T-This..."
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Most of them narrowed their eyes as they stared in shock at the ancient horned dragons silhouettes that were in the sky.

Some of them even thought that their visions had gone blurry, and they had seen wrongly. They could not stop themselves from lifting a hand to rub their eyes. However, after re-confirming it again a moment later, they finally realized that they had not seen wrongly at all.

"E-Eighty ancient horned dragons?"

When Tian Zhen saw the eighty ancient horned dragons' silhouettes in the air, he muttered, "I-It really is the Seventh Level Intermediate Fire Concept! B-But, how is this possible?"

The Seventh Level Intermediate Fire Concept!

THAT was exactly the Concept that Hu Fei had just demonstrated. There was no difference from his Concept before he entered the Profound Assimilation Formation.

In other words, Hu Fei showed no improvements at all before and after he went into the Profound Assimilation Formation. He did not receive any benefits from it at all, not even a tiny bit.

"W-What's going on?" For a time, be it Tian Gu, the Peak Master of Earth Peak, Yu Fang, the Peak Master of Water Peak, or the young talents like Nangong Yi, a perplexed look could be seen on their faces.

In their opinions, this was something that was almost impossible.

However, the scene before them impacted their visual nerves and told them that everything that was happening was indeed true.

Suddenly, a faint voice could be heard asking, "D-Did Peak Master Cha Bai just lost?"

Despite the low volume of the voice, it appeared to be exceptionally ear-piercing in the midst of the dead silence.

"IT'S YOU! Duan Ling Tian! It must be you! What did you do to me?!" Without any warning, a hysterical roar reverberated in the air. It woke everyone up from their shock.

It was none other than Hu Fei who had completely come back to his senses. He moved his eyes away from the eighty ancient horned dragons' silhouettes on the sky as he glared at Duan Ling Tian fiercely. He put on a manner that showed he meant business with Duan Ling Tian.

When he first came out of the Profound Assimilation Formation, he had felt that something was wrong. At that time, he tried to sense his own Fire Concept, and he discovered that his Fire Concept did not seem any different from before he entered the Profound Assimilation Formation.

After a moment of pondering, he thought that it was just simply because he had just come out of the Profound Assimilation Formation so he still could not sense the changes in his Fire Concept clearly.

Later, when he saw how Tian Zhen, Tan Huan, and the others managed to demonstrate an elevation of two whole levels in their Concept with his own eyes, he finally calmed down completely. In his opinion, there was no reason for him to not improve since the others had managed to improve.

When Guo Chong called his name and asked him to demonstrate earlier, Duan Ling Tian had suddenly stopped him and called his Master a liar. Moreover, he even called for a bet with his Master. Duan Ling Tian bet that his Fire Concept had no improvement at all and still remained at the Seventh Level Intermediate Fire Concept!

At that time, he was completely perplexed. No matter how much he pondered about it, it still puzzled him as to why Duan Ling Tian would claim he did not make any breakthrough at all in his Concept. Then, coupled with what he had sensed, he instantly became a little hesitant.

After that, he became lost in his thoughts, and he was shocked to the core by his Master's sudden scolding so he immediately demonstrated his Fire Concept in a hasty manner.

The moment he saw that he was still in the Seventh Level Intermediate Fire Concept, he became completely dumbstruck.

Thoroughly and utterly dumbstruck.

What the hell was going on right here?

The instance he regained his senses, the first thing that appeared in his mind was Duan Ling Tian. In his opinion, all of this must be the work of Duan Ling Tian! Otherwise, how could Duan Ling Tian possibly know that he had made no progress at all in the Profound

Assimilation Formation?

"Could it really be Duan Ling Tian?" When everyone saw Hu Fei shouting at Duan Ling Tian, they shifted their eyes towards Duan Ling Tian as well.

They had clearly heard the bet that Duan Ling Tian made with Cha Bai earlier. Judging from his words, it was as if he knew Hu Fei's Fire Concept did not make any breakthrough after coming out of the Profound Assimilation Formation.

In the beginning, when they heard the absurd bet that Duan Ling Tian made, most of them had thought that he did that on purpose in order to use it as an excuse to switch over to Fire Peak and become Cha Bai's disciple.

However, it was apparent at this moment that Duan Ling Tian did not have such an intention at all. It was because after Hu Fei had entered the Profound Assimilation Formation, it was indeed true that his Fire Concept did not have any breakthrough at all, and it still remained at the same level.

At this moment, when they recalled the words that Duan Ling Tian had said earlier, they felt like it was similar to a prophecy!

When they heard Hu Fei's roar, the first thought that popped up in their minds was that Duan Ling Tian had to have done something to Hu Fei earlier when they were still in the Profound Assimilation Formation. He must have made sure that he could not use the Concept Energy to increase his Fire Concept comprehension level.

Cha Bai's eyes turned blood-red as he glared at Duan Ling Tian. He asked in a deep voice, "Duan Ling Tian, what the hell did you do to Hu Fei?!"

As the Peak Master of Fire Peak in the Five Element Sect, this was the first time he was caught in such an unfavorable situation after being used to having authority for more than half his life. Moreover, it was in the hands of a young man who had not even entered his thirties yet. This made him feel extremely ashamed and furious. How he wished he could directly kill Duan Ling Tian right now!

However, the moment he noticed that Qi Yu, the Peak Master of Wood Peak's aura was fixed on him, he knew that no matter how hard he exerted his power, he would still barely be able to touch Duan Ling Tian at all.

Due to this reason, all he could do was suppress the endless flame that was burning in his heart.

"What can I do to him?" Faced with Cha Bai's question and the perplexed looks from all around him, Duan Ling Tian said calmly "Peak Master Cha Bai, everything must have evidence. You can't just simply make such a slanderous accusation!"

Duan Ling Tian's words instantly enraged Cha Bai even more. Flying into rage out of humiliation, he growled, "If it's not you, then how did you know Hu Fei's Fire Concept would not have any improvement at all after coming out of the Profound Assimilation Formation?"

Everyone else could not help but secretly nod along to Cha Bai's words.

That was right.

It was already considered strange that Hu Fei came out of the Profound Assimilation Formation with no improvement to his Concept at all. Moreover, what was even stranger was the fact that Duan Ling Tian actually knew Hu Fei's Concept did not improve at all. Adding up these two together, one could not help but be swarmed with thoughts.

Duan Ling Tian did not reply to Cha Bai's question. Instead, he changed the topic and asked nonchalantly, "Peak Master Cha Bai, looking at you right now... Are you, by any chance, regretting the

bet that you've made with me? You even personally asked the Sect Leader to become a witness for that bet. Don't tell me you're going to deny it now?"

With a piercing glare, Cha Bai growled, "Naturally, I'll acknowledge that bet! However, no matter what, you MUST give Hu Fei an explanation! Give ME an explanation! And give Wood Peak an explanation!"

In the end, he even brought out Wood Peak's name to pressure Duan Ling Tian.

"Since you're willing to acknowledge the bet, then that's really great, Peak Master Cha Bai! However, I don't really trust your words. How about this, you give me that Seventh Level Thunder Concept Fragment first, and I'll answer your question later, alright?" Duan Ling Tian chuckled and spoke with a speed that was neither slow nor fast.

"YOU!!" The moment he heard Duan Ling Tian's words, Cha Bai flared up in rage. Once again, he was overcome with the urge to launch an attack towards Duan Ling Tian directly.

In the end, he did not do it out of his fear of Qi Yu, the Peak Master of Wood Peak.

"Hurmph! I hope you'll be able to give me a satisfactory explanation later!" Cha Bai took a deep breath and suppressed the anger that was burning to his limit. At the same time, he lifted a hand up and threw a purple fragment at Duan Ling Tian.

"The Seventh Level Thunder Concept Fragment!" Duan Ling Tian caught the fragment, and his eyes immediately lit up.

He had comprehended a total of four Concepts, and he also had four of these Concept Fragments in his hands. However, the Thunder Concept Fragment that he had was of the lowest level among all the fragments that he possessed.

That Thunder Concept Fragment was actually obtained by killing

the most powerful person in the imperial family of the Darkhan Dynasty, Bai Nan Xiang, by using the talisman that was left behind by his cheapskate father.

It was just a First Level Thunder Concept Fragment.

Previously, he decided to make a bet with Cha Bai, the Peak Master of Fire Peak, so that he could scam a piece of high-grade Thunder Concept Fragment from him.

Now that the Seventh Level Thunder Concept Fragment was in his hands, Duan Ling Tian immediately became happy.

After Cha Bai watched Duan Ling Tian toying with the Seventh Level Thunder Concept Fragment in his hands, he no longer made any moves. He just growled in a low voice instead, "Duan Ling Tian, I've already given you the chip from our bet. NOW! You must give Hu Fei and me an explanation! Give an explanation to our Fire Peak!"

Chapter 911: Duan Ling Tian's Thunder Concept!

As soon as Cha Bai's words left his mouth, everyone's eyes immediately fell on Duan Ling Tian.

Hu Fei continued standing at the same spot. His body trembled slightly as he gritted his teeth. A pair of blood red eyes that were filled with bitter hatred glared at Duan Ling Tian intensely.

At this moment, Hu Fei was like a poisonous snake that was lurking in the darkness, ready to attack Duan Ling Tian at any given time.

"Don't worry, Peak Master Cha Bai! Since I said that I'll give you an explanation, I'll definitely give you one..." After Duan Ling Tian put the Seventh Level Thunder Concept Fragment away, he took a long look at Cha Bai before he said, "Still, I have to thank you first for giving me the Concept Fragment, Peak Master Cha Bai!"

"Hurmph!" Cha Bai' snorted. His face darkened as Duan Ling Tian tore his wound open. "Cut the nonsense! I really want to see what kind of explanation you'll give me!"

"Peak Master Cha Bai, you want an explanation on how I knew your useless disciple's Concept did not make any progress, right?" Duan Ling Tian asked while he looked at Hu Fei. There was no lack of provocation in his words.

Hu Fei, who had focused all his anger towards Duan Ling Tian for having no progress in his Fire Concept, immediately had a change in his expression the moment he heard Duan Ling Tian call him useless.

"Duan Ling Tian! You're going to hell!" Hu Fei could not hold it in any longer. With a hysterical cry, he charged towards Duan Ling Tian at a high speed. It was similar to a lurking poisonous snake that was agitated and was ready to bite its prey without any warning.

Whoosh!

The moment Hu Fei charged out, the Origin Energy on his body erupted. After it merged with his Seventh Level Intermediate Fire Concept, it transformed into a flame that soared up into the sky and enveloped his body in it.

Hu Fei currently resembled a fiery behemoth whose bloody mouth was wide open as he pounded towards Duan Ling Tian as if he was about to swallow him whole.

The Heaven and Earth Energy in the sky swirled while the Heaven and Energy Phenomenon began to solidify.

Along with Hu Fei's movement, 180 silhouettes of ancient horned dragons pounded towards Duan Ling Tian at a high speed. It had a very imposing demeanor.

When Hu Fei, who resembled a fiery behemoth with the strength of 180 ancient horned dragons, charged out, he left a trail of explosions behind him. It caused a surge of terrifying airwaves as he passed through.

Along with the airwaves, a hurricane raged and blew all of the furnishings in the palace all over the place. Some paintings were even torn off the walls and fell onto the floor with a loud 'crash'.

"DIE!"

In just a blink of an eye, Hu Fei who had transformed into a fiery flame had already reached in front of Duan Ling Tian. With a hysterical cry, he punched out a fist like a meteor falling from the sky.

The fist that was enveloped with flame crashed towards Duan Ling Tian directly. He resembled a fiery behemoth that punched out a fist without mercy.

With the power that was contained in the fist, Duan Ling Tian

would die, if not crippled, if he had gotten hit.

"Hu Fei!" Horror dawned on Cha Bai instantly. He had never thought that Hu Fei would attack Duan Ling Tian just like that.

In his opinion, Duan Ling Tian's innate ability was very powerful. Previously, he had easily wrapped Hu Fei and the Nangong Twins from Gold Peak around his fingers. Now that Hu Fei suddenly attacked him, wasn't Hu Fei just digging his own grave?

Just as everybody present, including Cha Bai, thought that Duan Ling Tian would use his innate ability to create an illusion to delude Hu Fei again, Duan Ling Tian made a move that took them all by surprise.

Duan Ling Tian did not bother to dodge at all in the face of that menacing Hu Fei. Origin Energy began to erupt from his body.

The vast Origin Energy quickly transformed into streaks of thunderbolts like purple snakes that wrapped around his body. It made him look like a Thunder God that had just descended from the sky.

Boom! Boom! Boom! Boom!

•••

As the thunderbolts wrapped around Duan Ling Tian's body clashed against each other, a series of low rumbles from the thunder reverberated in the air, and it shook everyone to the core.

Bang!

A deafening thunder suddenly shook the entire palace and caused three young disciples from the Water, Fire and Earth Peaks who had a slightly lower cultivation base to immediately put their hands over their ears.

Everyone saw Duan Ling Tian also sent out a punch without any intention to dodge as Hu Fei charged over with his fiery fist. It was

obvious that he wanted to clash directly with Hu Fei.

When Duan Ling Tian punched out his fist, streaks of flashing purple thunderbolts pulsated around his fist and interlaced to become an electrified wire netting.

Under the watchful eyes of the others, Duan Ling Tian and Hu Fei's fists finally met each other.

Boom!!

The fist that was entwined with streaks of purple thunderbolts like electrical snakes clashed with the fist that was wrapped in flames that looked like fiery snakes. It instantly created a loud thundering noise.

Boom! Boom! Boom! Boom!

The moment when Duan Ling Tian and Hu Fei's fist collided with each other, the streaks of purple lightning bolts also collided with the burning flames as it set off a series of horrendous explosions.

The moment the explosion was set of, hurricanes surged up again as it swept all over the place. The location Duan Ling Tian and Hu Fei were standing at were in the eye of the hurricane.

Cracks started to appear on the floor below their feet, and it stretched out in all directions. It covered the entire palace in just a blink of an eye. It resembled a gigantic spider web.

Furthermore, the quakes had also shattered many of the windows on both sides of the palace. The pillars in the palace were also being shaken as if they were about to collapse at any time.

However, nobody paid any attention to this at all.

At this moment, all of the people present were staring fixedly at the two young men who clashed directly with their fists. Their robes were billowing, and their hair ties were ripped apart causing their long hairs to fly.

Boom! Boom! Boom! Boom!

...

Under the watchful eyes of the spectators, the streaks of dense purple thunderbolt constantly intertwined and produced a series of terrifying thunder sound. It clamped down on the burning flames in one fell swoop and snuffed it out completely.

CRACK!!

A clear and crisp bone-cracking sound resonated in the air. The people present at the scene shuddered upon hearing it.

In the next moment, everybody could see Duan Ling Tian's body suddenly leaned forward and the dense purple thunderbolts that were intertwined with his fist rolled over the flames on Hu Fei's fist like he was crushing dry weeds.

The instance the bone-cracking sound echoed in the air, Hu Fei let out a grunt of pain.

In the next second, he was sent flying like an arrow leaving the bow before he was slammed against the wall of the palace as if he was pushed by a tremendous force.

Wham!

After that loud thunderous sound, Hu Fei's body slid down the wall. His body was curled up in a fetal position as he trembled in pain.

"Arghh!"

"Arghhhhhhhhhhh!"

• • •

The moment he inhaled, he spat out mouthfuls of blood. The fresh blood around his body turned into a small bloody stream around him. It truly created a ghastly sight.

The entire place was deadly silent. Suddenly, a nonchalant voice broke the silence, "What a pleasant feeling!"

It was none other than Duan Ling Tian who was muttering to himself while he stretched his limbs after sending Hu Fei flying with his fist. The dense interlocking thunderbolts on his fist had already vanished without a trace.

Everyone present was completely petrified.

P-Pleasant?

Cha Bai, the Peak Master of Fire Peak, looked horrified as he rushed towards Hu Fei to check on his wounds.

Meanwhile, everyone else immediately shifted their gazes to Duan Ling Tian as soon as they regained their senses.

"Good job, lad!" Qi Yu's eyes lit up as he stared at Duan Ling Tian in astonishment.

Qi Yu originally thought Duan Ling Tian would use his innate ability and create an illusion when he saw Duan Ling Tian was about to attack Hu Fei. It did not even cross his mind that Duan Ling Tian would not use his innate ability. Moreover, he did not even bother to dodge. He actually directly confronted Hu Fei and sent him flying with just a blow.

Duan Ling Tian's cultivation base was on par with Hu Fei's. They were both at the Seventh Level Void Interpretation. However, the Concepts that they had comprehended were definitely not on the same level.

Hu Fei's comprehension was at the Seventh Level Intermediate Fire Concept. However, the single Thunder Concept that Duan Ling Tian had cast earlier could actually suppress Hu Fei. That was at least an Eighth Level intermediate Thunder Concept, or perhaps a Ninth Level Intermediate Thunder Concept.

"D-Duan Ling Tian... You bastard! You actually have such a powerful Thunder Concept?" Huang Daniu's eyes were as wide as saucers. Slightly stunned, he stared at Duan Ling Tian. He was completely taken aback by the strength that Duan Ling Tian had

displayed earlier.

That punch was like a punch from the Thunder God. It instantly sent Hu Fei, who was charging forward menacingly, flying back! Duan Ling Tian's blow was clean and neat. Even the Heaven and Earth Phenomenon above his head did not have time to form yet.

"That was at least an Eighth Level Intermediate Thunder Concept!" Guo Chong narrowed his eyes. Amazement could be seen on his face as he looked at Duan Ling Tian.

Duan Ling Tian, a Wood Peak disciple, was a Variant that possessed an innate ability. His cultivation base was at the Seventh Level Void Interpretation, and he had comprehended the Third Level Intermediate Wind Concept.

This was his understanding of Duan Ling Tian prior to this day.

Previously, he had thought that Duan Ling Tian's strength relied mostly on his innate ability. If he did not have this innate ability, let alone his own two direct disciples, Duan Ling Tian could not even be compared to Hu Fei from Fire Peak.

However, Duan Ling Tian had given him the surprise of his life today.

Without relying on his innate ability, he used just one blow to directly confront Hu Fei and sent Hu Fei, who had the advantage from striking first, flying. The entire process was neat and efficient. It was not sloppy at all.

"So it turns out that this Duan Ling Tian did not only comprehend the Wind Concept but the Thunder Concept as well! The Third Level Intermediate Wind Concept is the weaker Concept that he has comprehended. The Intermediate Thunder Concept that he has is actually his true trump card!" Tian Gu gasped in surprise and muttered to himself.

"And to think that I actually thought the most powerful Concept that he has is the Third Level Intermediate Wind Concept! Looks like this time, the Concept that he has raised by entering the Profound Assimilation Formation is actually the Thunder Concept!" Yu Fang inhaled deeply before continuing, "In other words, his Intermediate Thunder Concept was actually already at the Sixth or Seventh Level even before he entered the Profound Assimilation Foundation."

Due to the reason that Duan Ling Tian had shown his Wind Concept when he first arrived at Wood Peak of the Five Element Sect, it was no surprise that the other Peak Masters knew that he had comprehended the Third Level Intermediate Wind Concept.

Chapter 912: You Must Be Taking A Wild Guess!

Apart from Tian Gu and Yu Fang who were taken by surprise, the other Five Element Sect's young disciples were stupefied as well.

"Duan Ling Tian's so strong!"

"I thought his innate ability is his only move. I didn't expect that he's actually so powerful even without using his innate ability."

"Before this, I heard that he has only comprehended the Third Level Intermediate Wind Concept. Now that I think about it, it seems like he's really good at concealing his strength."

"The Thunder Concept that he used to send Hu Fei flying with just a blow must at least be at the Eighth Level Intermediate Thunder Concept. Who knows, it could even be at the Ninth Level Intermediate Thunder Concept!"

...

Hints of dread could be seen in the eyes of the other young disciples, including Tian Zhen and Tan Huan, as they looked at Duan Ling Tian.

"This Duan Ling Tian has actually comprehended such a strong Thunder Concept?" Nangong Yi lifted his brow. His face slightly darkened as he muttered, "If he uses both the Thunder Concept and Third Level Intermediate Wind Concept at the same time, even without that innate ability of his, I'm still not a match for him unless I've comprehended the First Level Advanced Water Concept!"

At this moment, Nangong Yi began to feel a slight sense of heavy pressure on him.

Although he could clearly feel the tremendous change in his Water Concept after coming out of the Profound Assimilation Formation, he still had no idea how much progress he had actually made.

He could only find out how much progress his Water Concept had made by demonstrating it. However, there was one thing that he was sure of. It was at least at the Ninth Level Intermediate Water Concept! Or perhaps, the First Level Advanced Water Concept, which was also known as the Void Transformation Concept.

Nangong Chen, who was standing next to Nangong Yi, had his eyes fixed on Duan Ling Tian. The battle intent that was radiating off his body was so intense. It seemed like he could not wait to have 300 rounds of battles with Duan Ling Tian.

In a distance, by the corner of the palace, Hu Fei's wounds began to recover slowly after Cha Bai had fed him a wound-curing medicinal pill. The look Hu Fei's face was extremely wretched. Other than bitter hatred, his gaze that unconsciously swept across the purple figure in the distance was also filled with a hint of dread that came from the bottom of his heart.

If he had been defeated by Duan Ling Tian's innate ability today, he could only acknowledge his defeat. After all, this was not his first time being defeated by the innate ability.

However, he was defeated by Duan Ling Tian in a direct confrontation today. Moreover, it was Hu Fei himself that struck first to gain the upper hand. A sense of helplessness instantly rose up in his heart. All the same, resentment rose up in his heart as well.

'If this Duan Ling Tian didn't tamper with the Profound Assimilation Formation in the first place, I would've already mastered the Ninth Level Intermediate Fire Concept! If I have the Ninth Level Intermediate Fire Concept, there's no reason for me to fear him anymore!' When Hu Fei thought of this, his resentment towards Duan Ling Tian immediately multiplied.

In his mind, he was almost completely sure that Duan Ling Tian had done something when he was in the Profound Assimilation Formation that caused his Fire Concept to have no progress at all.

In his opinion, if Duan Ling Tian did not tamper with the Profound Assimilation Formation, he would not have lost to Duan Ling Tian earlier!

Because of this, he hated! He hated Duan Ling Tian!

How he wished he could just rip Duan Ling Tian apart into thousands of pieces and smashed his bones into dust!

"M-master!" Hu Fei lifted his head and looked at Cha Bai who was in close proximity. His eyes turned red as tears instantly welled up. With a quivering voice, he pleaded, "Y-You must help avenge me! It's Duan Ling Tian who destroyed me and stopped me from obtaining the Ninth Level Intermediate Fire Concept in the Profound Assimilation Formation!"

Once he was finished, his face was completely filled with intense hatred.

"Don't worry!" Cha Bai nodded his head glumly. Even if Hu Fei did not say anything, he did not plan to let Duan Ling Tian go that easily.

During the Battle of the Five Peaks, Duan Ling Tian had humiliated his direct disciple, and now he caused his direct disciple to gain nothing at all from the Profound Assimilation Formation. Apart from that, he had also scammed a Seventh Level Thunder Concept Fragment from him. Moreover, he even inflicted serious injuries on his direct disciple!

This was a provocation!

A blatant provocation!

Ever since he, Cha Bai, became the Peak Master of Fire Peak in the Five Element Sect, this was his first time being provoked like that. "Duan Ling Tian!" Cha Bai walked towards Duan Ling Tian slowly. His pair of eyes were gleaming icily. "Now, you must explain to me clearly! How did you know that Hu Fei would gain nothing in the Profound Assimilation Formation? Or did you do something foul that caused Hu Fei to gain nothing at all!"

When he reached the end of his sentence, his tone was so icy that one could even feel it in his bones.

The moment Cha Bai's words left his mouth, everybody's gaze, including Qi Yu, landed on Duan Ling Tian. Actually, they were also curious about the things that Cha Bai had brought up.

Nobody knew in advance that Hu Fei did not make any progress at all in the Profound Assimilation Formation, not even Hu Fei himself. However, Duan Ling Tian casually said it out as if he was a person with foresight.

"Peak Master Cha Bai, you've overestimated me by saying these words. Do you really think that a small young kid like me could tamper with the Profound Assimilation Formation that was left behind by a Martial Monarch powerhouse?" Duan Ling Tian shook his head. The way that he was looking at Cha Bai was as if he was looking at an idiot.

"Hurmph!" Cha Bai snorted, "Stop twisting the situation! If you didn't tamper with it, how are you so sure that Hu Fei did not make any progress at all in the Profound Assimilation Formation? Or are you going to tell me that you can see through the level of his Concept comprehension without him having to demonstrate his Fire Concept?" A sneer could be seen on his face as the last question came out of his mouth.

"Peak Master Cha Bai, I can answer your question right now," Duan Ling Tian was not bothered by the sneer on Cha Bai's face.

The moment he finished saying this, he moved his gaze towards Nangong Yi who was standing nearby. "Nangong Yi, can you do me a favor please?" Nangong Yi was a little perplexed when he noticed Duan Ling Tian had shifted his gaze towards him. The moment he heard Duan Ling Tian's words, he immediately nodded his head, "Of course." Although he was not particularly fond of Duan Ling Tian, he did not harbor any bad feelings towards him as well.

"Now, please demonstrate the Water Concept of your transformation. Just a little demonstration will do. Please remember to retract it before the Heaven and Earth Phenomenon is mobilized," Duan Ling Tian told Nangong Yi.

The moment these words left Duan Ling Tian's mouth, the entire place became deathly quiet. Some of them could guess what Duan Ling Tian was trying to do, but they were not very sure. After all, it was something that one could not imagine.

And that included Nangong Yi himself.

"Interesting, interesting," Nangong Yi smiled and took a stride forward. "Speaking of this, I don't even know how much my Water Concept has improved after I came out from the Profound Assimilation Formation. I'm curious if there's anyone who can see through the improvement of my Water Concept before I even mobilize the Heaven and Earth Phenomenon."

As he finished saying this, the air around Nangong Yi began to tremble slightly under the watchful eyes of the crowd.

The faint mist that instantly rose up into the sky began to intertwine around his body as it continued to roll around and rise up in the air.

The moment the mist appeared, Duan Ling Tian spoke out, "Alright, enough."

When Nangong Yi heard Duan Ling Tian's words, he instantly retracted his Water Concept. With a stunned look, he asked, "This is enough?"

After all, he was only beginning to gain his momentum earlier.

He had not even demonstrated his real Water Concept yet. The Heaven and Earth Energy did not even have time to respond.

"Yeah," Duan Ling Tian nodded his head and immediately shifted his attention to Cha Bai. Calmly, he asked, "Peak Master Cha Bai, can you see what level Nangong Yi's Water Concept is at after coming out of the Profound Assimilation Formation?"

"Psst!" When Cha Bai heard Duan Ling Tian's question, he immediately burst out laughing. "Don't tell me you can see it?!"

From his words, it was obvious that he was admitting that he could not see it.

"Yes, I can," Under the stunned gaze of Cha Bai, Duan Ling Tian nodded his head in response. He turned towards Nangong Yi and flashed him a smile, "Nangong Yi, your Water Concept has been raised to the Ninth Level Intermediate Concept."

Ninth Level Intermediate Concept!

The instance Duan Ling Tian's words left his mouth, everyone, including Cha Bai and Hu Fei, shifted their attention towards Nangong Yi. Their eyes were filled with astonishment.

"Yi'er, show your Water Concept and see whether Duan Ling Tian is correct," Guo Chong told Nangong Yi.

At this moment, even him, the Sect Leader of Five Element Sect, could not stop the shock from filling his eyes. This was his first time hearing that somebody could actually see through a person's Concept Level under such conditions.

"Yes, Master," Upon hearing Guo Chong's words, Nangong Yi did not dare to slack. The air around his body once again trembled, mists began to appear again before finally transforming into a wave of turquoise ripple that shrouded him entirely.

Swoosh!

At the same time, the Heaven and Earth Phenomenon on top of

Nangong Yi's head gradually solidified into form. It finally transformed into 100 ancient horned dragons.

Just with his Concept alone, he managed to mobilize the Heaven and Earth Energy and brought together 100 ancient horned dragons.

That was exactly the sign of the Ninth Level Void Interpretation Concept!

"It's indeed the Ninth Level Intermediate Water Concept!" Tian Zhen exclaimed loudly in surprise. After he had retracted his gaze from the 100 ancient horned dragons' silhouettes, he immediately looked at Duan Ling Tian. His eyes were filled with bewilderment.

"It's actually the Ninth Level Intermediate Water Concept!" Nangong Yi sighed as if he was a little disappointed and dejected.

It was obvious that his goal was the Void Transformation Concept.

However, soon afterward, Nangong Yi regained his senses. Just like the others, he looked at Duan Ling Tian and could not help but ask curiously, "Duan Ling Tian, how did you manage to see it?"

Other than Cha Bai and Hu Fei whose faces were rather glum, a perplexed look could be seen on everyone's faces.

"I'll tell you later." Duan Ling Tian laughed and looked at Cha Bai. "Peak Master Cha Bai, are you satisfied with my 'explanation' now? Earlier, when Hu Fei made a slight demonstration of his Fire Concept, I already saw that he had no improvement in his Fire Concept at all," Duan Ling Tian replied.

"Hurmph! Who doesn't know that Nangong Yi will be at the Ninth Level Intermediate Water Concept or First Level Advance Level Water Concept after he came out of the Profound Assimilation Formation? You're merely making a wild guess!" Cha Bai replied with disdain.

Chapter 913: Huang Daniu's Earth Concept

"Wild guess?" Cha Bai's words left Duan Ling Tian stunned for a moment before he burst out laughing again.

This time, he realized that more than half of the people present had begun to look at him weirdly with doubtful gazes after they heard Cha Bai's words.

It was apparent that they were all shaken by Cha Bai's words.

"No matter which level you said Nangong Yi's comprehension is at, it doesn't matter if it's the Ninth Level Intermediate Wind Concept or the First Level Advance Wind Concept, you still have a fifty-fifty chance of getting it right," Cha Bai looked at Duan Ling Tian and sneered. "From what I can see, you're just lucky."

"Look at mine then," a cold voice suddenly interjected and eclipsed Cha Bai's laughter.

It was Nangong Chen who was standing at the side all this time. He strode forward as he looked at Duan Ling Tian and opened his usually taciturn mouth, "I don't know whether I've comprehended the Ninth Level Intermediate Earth Concept or the First Level Advance Earth Concept after coming out of the Profound Assimilation Formation. Since Peak Master Cha Bai said that Duan Ling Tian is merely making a wild guess while looking at Senior Brother Yi's Concept, I wonder if Duan Ling Tian will be able to get it right this time."

The instance his words left his mouth, everybody, including Duan Ling Tian, shifted their gazes to him. The spotlight immediately turned to him.

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The Five Element Sect's young disciples, including Tian Zhen and Tan Huan, constantly looked at both Duan Ling Tian and Nangong Chen.

"Duan Ling Tian!" Huang Daniu looked at Duan Ling Tian. His face was filled with confidence as he said loudly, "If you can see Nangong Chen's Concept clearly, but Peak Master Cha Bai still insists that you're merely making wild guesses, you can look at mine next!"

The instance Huang Daniu's words left his mouth, Cha Bai's face changed immediately. Was this not like him trying to say that Cha Bai was deliberately accusing Duan Ling Tian?

"Let us wait till he manages to see through the Concept that Nangong Chen has comprehended first!" Cha Bai sneered.

Duan Ling Tian nodded and flashed a smile at Huang Daniu before he looked at Nangong Chen, "You may start now!"

Nangong Chen nodded his head.

The floor beneath his feet immediately trembled, and a khaki energy rose up from the surroundings of his body immediately. It emitted an intense and majestic aura.

"Alright, that's enough," Duan Ling Tian said.

When Nangong Chen heard this, he retracted the Earth Concept that had not mobilized the Heaven and Earth Energy yet.

"Congratulations! You've already comprehended the First Level Advance Earth Concept!" Duan Ling Tian congratulated Nangong Chen.

With his current Spiritual Energy, and his experience from the two reincarnations of the Rebirth Martial Emperor, he could easily discern someone's Concept Level as long as they let out their Concept aura. It was similar to how he could easily use his Spiritual Energy to probe at others' cultivation bases.

First Level Advance Earth concept!

The moment Duan Ling Tian's words left his mouth, the place instantly became deathly quiet.

Guo Chong, the Sect Leader of Five Element Sect, was the first one to react. His eyes shone brightly as he looked at Nangong Chen, "Chen'er, you..."

Before he could even finish his sentence, Nangong Chen's Earth Concept around his body had already risen. Khaki energy continued to soar up into the sky, all the way up to its limit.

Whoosh!

The Heaven and Earth Energy bubbled in the air. In just a second, it accumulated into a clear Heaven and Earth phenomenon. There was a total of 200 ancient horned dragons in the air.

He mobilized the Heaven and Earth Energy with just his Concept, and he managed to converge them into a total of 200 ancient horned dragons.

That was the sign of the First Level Void Transformation Concept!

"It's indeed the First Level Advance Earth Concept!"

"Senior Brother Chen is so powerful! He actually managed to rise up two levels and reached the First Level Advance Earth Concept in just one go after coming out from the Profound Assimilation Formation."

"With Senior Brother Chen's current strength, it's already horrifying enough even if he doesn't rely on Earth Energy. I wonder how ghastly his strength is if he borrows Earth Energy?"

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After Tian Gu, the Peak Master of Earth Peak, cried out in astonishment, the group of young disciples behind him could not stop themselves from whispering to each other.

All of them had one similarity at the moment — all of them had a bewildered look on their faces.

"Haha! Well done!" Guo Chong could not suppress the laughter

rising from his throat when he saw his own direct disciple managed to progress so much after coming out of the Profound Assimilation Formation.

Nangong Chen still looked cold as usual. However, Duan Ling Tian could see that there was a hint of astonishment in the depth of his eyes. It was apparent that Nangong Chen's inside was not as cold as he usually showed on the outside.

"Congratulations, Sect Leader," Tian Gu and Yu Fang congratulated Guo Chong with a smile on their faces.

"Sigh," Nangong Yi who was standing by the side could not help but let out a sigh after casting a glance at Nangong Chen.

Not only were the two of them twins, they were also born to be rivals. Since they were young, the both of them had always competed with each other. However, the number of his losses were more than his wins. It had always been like this. It was like a curse that was hard to break.

After shifting his gaze away from Nangong Chen to look at Cha Bai, Qi Yu, the Peak Master of Wood Peak asked with a sneer on the corner of his mouth, "Cha Bai, do you still think that Duan Ling Tian's merely making a wild guess?"

Although his voice was not particularly loud, it managed to enter everyone's ears. Everyone immediately shifted their attention to Cha Bai.

Cha Bai's face turned slightly glum instantly.

Did Duan Ling Tian really make a wild guess?

Initially, when Duan Ling Tian saw through the real Concept level that Nangong Yi had comprehended, he indeed felt that Duan Ling Tian was making a wild guess. However, he began to doubt himself now.

However, since things had developed to this point, how could he show his uncertainty just like that?

"Hurmph!" Cha Bai swept an indifferent glance at Qi Yu as he snorted, "Qi Yu, you're right! Even until now, I still think he's merely making wild guesses! It's not that difficult to get two correct!"

"How about three then?" Standing by the side, Huang Daniu who could no longer stand it, smirked as he looked at Cha Bai scornfully.

"We'll see after he manages to see through your Concept!" A chilly look flashed across Cha Bai's eyes. However, his face remained calm on the outside as he replied nonchalantly.

Without wasting any time, Huang Daniu looked towards Duan Ling Tian and immediately called out, "Duan Ling Tian!"

Duan Ling Tian nodded his head, but he did not ask Huang Daniu to demonstrate his Earth Concept immediately. Instead, he looked at Cha Bai and said coldly, "Peak Master Cha Bai, before I look at Daniu's Concept level, there's something I want to confirm. If I can really see through his Concept level, can I stop giving you any more 'explanation'?"

Duan Ling Tian greatly emphasized the word 'explanation'. There was no lack of sarcasm in his words.

"As long as you can see through the exact Concept level that Huang Daniu has comprehended after coming out from the Profound Assimilation Formation, you'll only need to look at one more Fire Peak disciple that I'll bring over later from Fire Peak. You don't have to give me any more explanation after that," Cha Bai's replied nonchalantly as a gleam flashed across his eyes.

"Very well," Duan Ling Tian nodded his head. "Since the Sect Leader is here as well, I'm sure a dignified Peak Master of Fire Peak like you would never try and lie to me."

"Hurmph!" Cha Bai snorted coldly. An icy gleam flashed across the depth of his eyes as if it was about to devour a certain somebody.

"Daniu, you may start now," Duan Ling Tian looked at Huang Daniu. Huang Daniu instantly demonstrated his Earth Concept in a timely manner. He demonstrated for a just a second before he immediately retracted it again.

The Heaven and Earth Energy was not mobilized at all, let alone forming a Heaven and Earth Phenomenon.

Just as Huang Daniu retracted his Earth Concept that was barely demonstrated, and everyone's eyes shifted towards Duan Ling Tian, Duan Ling Tian burst out laughing without any warning, "Haha! Daniu, you're really a monster!"

"W-What?" Huang Daniu's eyes lit up. Then, as if he was hit by a realization, he asked excitedly, "Don't tell me that I, Brother Niu, have really comprehended the Ninth Level Intermediate Earth Concept? If that's true, then I, Brother Niu, will be the first genius who has managed to raise my Concept three levels higher after coming out of the Profound Assimilation Formation!"

Before Huang Daniu entered the Profound Assimilation formation, it was no secret that he had only comprehended the Sixth Level Intermediate Earth Concept. Everyone present at the scene knew this well.

"Psst!" The moment Huang Daniu's words left his mouth, Cha Bai burst out laughing at instantly. "Three levels? Are you daydreaming now?"

When Huang Daniu was glaring at Cha Bai, Duan Ling Tian opened his mouth again, "Daniu, since somebody thinks that you're merely daydreaming, why don't you show him how you're going to turn this daydream into reality?! I'm curious as to what kind of expression he'll be wearing later."

"If he really has comprehended the Ninth Level Intermediate Earth Concept, then I won't bring another disciple from Fire Peak, and you, Duan Ling Tian, no longer have to explain!" Cha Bai smirked.

No matter what, he absolutely refused to believe that Huang Daniu would be able to elevate his Sixth Level Intermediate Earth Concept to the Ninth Level Intermediate Earth Concept just by entering the Profound Assimilation Formation one time.

"Alright, you're the one who said this yourself!" Upon hearing Cha Bai's words, Duan Ling Tian laughed before turning towards Huang Daniu, "Daniu, let Peak Master Cha Bai see your transformed Earth Concept clearly, shall we?"

"Haha! Alright!" Huang Daniu laughed loudly.

He had absolute faith in Duan Ling Tian. Since Duan Ling Tian said that he had comprehended the Ninth Level Intermediate Earth Concept, then he must have comprehended the Ninth Level Intermediate Earth Concept.

Under the watchful eyes of the crowd, the khaki energy around Huang Daniu's body soared up immediately. It radiated waves and waves of vast and majestic aura that constantly rose up to the sky.

Whoosh!

The Heaven and Earth Energy whirled in the air before it finally converged into a Heaven and Earth Phenomenon with 100 ancient horned dragons.

"It really is the Ninth Level Intermediate Earth Concept!" Tian Gu exclaimed loudly in surprise.

At this moment, everybody, except Duan Ling Tian, Huang Daniu, and Qi Yu who appeared to be calm as if he had long believed the words that Duan Ling Tian said, was gaping in shock as they stared at the Heaven and Earth Phenomenon above Huang Daniu's head. It was like they had seen something that was incredibly amazing.

Cha Bai, the Peak Master of Fire Peak, was the first to speak, "H-

How's this even p-possible?!"

Cha Bai kept shaking his head! He could not believe that this was real.

"Daniu, looks like you're the person who had snatched Hu Fei's good fortune from him in the Profound Assimilation Formation. That Hu Fei did not even get a cent from the Profound Assimilation Formation. But look at you! You actually managed to raise three levels of your Earth Concept!" Duan Ling Tian smiled a bright and brilliant smile.

Hu Fei, who was nearby, already had a glum look on his face. The instance he heard Duan Ling Tian's words, he was so agitated that he threw up another mouthful of blood.

Chapter 914: Everything is Going Smoothly According to My Wish

"This means the Profound Assimilation Formation has good eyes and knows that I, Brother Niu, is a man of great potential! As for that Hu Fei, he's just an ungrateful bastard. Perhaps that's why the Profound Assimilation Formation turned its nose up at the sight of him!" Huang Daniu grinned happily. The moment his gaze landed on Hu Fei, it immediately turned cold.

"Barf!" Hu Fei, who had just wiped the blood off his mouth, became so distressed that he spat out another mouthful of blood the second he heard Huang Daniu's words. His face was horrendously pale.

'Huang Daniu! You're going to hell!" Cha Bai's face instantly darkened. A wave of majestic aura emanated out of his body and swept out instantly. It pressed down on Huang Daniu without any warning.

Unfortunately, it was already blown away before his aura managed to reach Huang Daniu.

Swish!

A figure appeared in front of Huang Daniu. It was none other than the Peak Master of Wood Peak — Qi Yu.

Wham!

The second Duan Ling Tian saw Qi Yu materialized in front of Huang Daniu, he immediately heard a loud sound resonating in the air. What he saw next was Cha Bai being sent flying backward like an arrow that left the bowstring before he smashed through the wall of the palace and disappeared before his eyes.

A huge hole immediately appeared on the wall.

"Qi Yu!" A cry that was filled with rage echoed from behind the

wall. What followed next was a dusty Cha Bai who returned to the palace. He glared at Qi Yu viciously. However, he did not make any move at all.

"Scram!" When Qi Yu saw how audacious Cha Bai was to make his way back again, he glared fiercely at him. Qi Yu was as terrifying as the Buddha's warrior attendant, and his deterrent force was very obvious.

Cha Bai's face darkened. He eventually bit his lips and brought Hu Fei and the other Fire Peak disciple to leave the palace together. They disappeared before everyone's eyes.

"Duan Ling Tian, what's the level of your Thunder Concept? Why don't you show it to all of us?" Guo Chong asked Duan Ling Tian.

As for the things that had happened earlier, he acted like he did not see anything at all. In other words, he had chosen to ignore them.

Upon hearing Guo Chong's words, everybody's gaze moved to Duan Ling Tian immediately.

This time, among the ten young talents who had come out of the Profound Assimilation Formation, apart from Hu Fei who made no progress at all, Huang Daniu and Nangong Chen both had made great progress.

Before Huang Daniu entered the Profound Assimilation Formation, he had only comprehended the Sixth Level Intermediate Earth Concept. However, when he came out of it, he had already made it to the Ninth Level Intermediate Earth Concept. Even Duan Ling Tian could not help but feel shocked over this matter.

Huang Daniu's progress had far exceeded his expectations.

'Or perhaps, Daniu's body is well suited to the Earth Concept... Therefore, his comprehension of the Earth Concept is far better than other people,' Duan Ling Tian could only come up with this answer after he ransacked the two reincarnations of the Rebirth Martial Emperor's memories.

Before Nangong Chen entered the Profound Assimilation Formation, he had already comprehended the Eight Level Intermediate Earth Concept. When he came out, he had already reached the First Level Advance Earth Concept.

Although his Earth Concept was only raised by two levels, the strength that he managed to elevate was far beyond Huang Daniu.

That was a matter of course!

The First Level Advance Earth Concept was far stronger than the Ninth Level Intermediate Earth Concept by 100 ancient horned dragons. The two of them were not on the same level at all.

However, at this moment, be it Huang Daniu or Nangong Chen, both of them had their eyes fixed on Duan Ling Tian.

"Looks like I have no other choice but to show my strength today." When Duan Ling Tian saw the situation before his eyes, he laughed wryly to himself.

Under everyone's watchful eyes, the air surrounding Duan Ling Tian suddenly surged and streaks of thunderbolts that resembled purple electrical snakes appeared immediately. It was streaks of solidified thunderbolts!

The thunderbolts kept increasing in number and continuously clashed with each other. It created a series of low thunderous sound.

That was the Thunder Concept!

Boom! Boom! Boom! Boom!

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A series of thunder resonated in the air, the purple thunderbolts around Duan Ling Tian also formed layers of electrical webs that shrouded his entire being. It made him look like a Thunder God.

The Thunder God had descended on Earth, and every corner of Earth would shake in fear!

Whoosh!

The Heaven and Earth Energy above Duan Ling Tian's head whirled, and the Heaven and Earth Phenomenon gradually solidified into form. Silhouettes of ancient horned dragons began to emerge, and it was reflected in everybody's eyes.

Ten.

Twenty.

Thirty.

. . .

The number of the ancient horned dragons kept increasing.

Soon after, the number finally stopped increasing.

"It's the strength of 100 ancient horned dragons! Ninth Level Intermediate Thunder Concept!" When Huang Daniu saw the 100 silhouettes of ancient horned dragons in the sky, he could not help but exclaim in surprise.

The Ninth Level Intermediate Thunder Concept!

Everybody instantly focused their eyes on Duan Ling Tian again. Apart from astonishment in the depth of their eyes, there was only more astonishment.

The purple-clad young man before them appeared to be only around twenty five years old. His real age did not exceed thirty at all. A martial artist who was barely in his thirties but had already comprehended the Ninth Level Void Interpretation Concept.

Although the Profound Assimilation Formation did help, his comprehension could be considered as very good in a first-class and second-class sect, let alone a third-class sect like the Five Element Sect.

"Wow, this is really unexpected. Not only does Duan Ling Tian possess that unpredictable innate ability, he even has such a good comprehension when it comes to Concept as well!"

"It's no surprise! He's a Variant after all! I heard that a Variant who possesses an innate ability like Duan Ling Tian is also known as God's Favorite, you know."

"God's Favorite? The name really fits Duan Ling Tian like a glove!"

...

The four Water and Earth Peak disciples, including Tian Zhen and Tan Huan, exclaimed in surprise.

Even Tian Gu, the Peak Master of Earth Peak, and Yu Fang, the Peak Master of Water Peak, were not an exception. At this moment, their gaze that was trained on Duan Ling Tian was filled with a hint of complicated look.

How good would it be if he was a disciple of their Earth or Water Peak instead?

However, a dream was always beautiful while the reality was always harsh.

'Wood Peak really lucked out this time,' With a tacit understanding, the two of them thought secretly to themselves.

"Duan Ling Tian, what's the level of your Thunder Concept before you entered the Profound Assimilation Formation?" Qi Yu asked curiously as he looked at Duan Ling Tian.

Everybody, including Guo Chong, instantly shifted their eyes towards Duan Ling Tian. They were curious about this as well.

"Seventh Level," A glimpse of brilliance flashed across Duan Ling Tian's eyes.

"Haha..." The moment Duan Ling Tian's words left his mouth, Huang Daniu laughed out loud. "Duan Ling Tian, you're much better than me in every single aspect. However, this time, it looks like you didn't gain as many benefits as I, Brother Niu, did in the Profound Assimilation Formation! Before your Brother Niu, I, entered the Profound Assimilation Formation, my comprehension was at the Sixth Level Intermediate Earth Concept. After I came out, I'm now at the Ninth Level Intermediate Earth Concept!" Huang Daniu grinned widely when he reached the end of his sentence.

Ever since he met with Duan Ling Tian, he was always a step behind Duan Ling Tian. It made him feel a little dejected. He finally had an opportunity to sit on Duan Ling Tian's head now. He was absolutely overjoyed from the bottom of his heart.

When Duan Ling Tian saw how Huang Daniu was blowing his own trumpet in front of him, Duan Ling Tian merely rolled his eyes at him. He did not bother paying him any attention at all. If Huang Daniu found out that he was only at the Elementary Thunder Concept before he entered the Profound Assimilation Formation, who knew what his expression would be like.

Of course, Duan Ling Tian would not expose himself just like that.

Becoming rich while staying silent was the most virtuous way after all!

Due to Huang Daniu's playful antics, the gazes that were on Duan Ling Tian slowly shifted away. He was no longer in the limelight.

Although it was considered quite good being able to elevate his Seventh Level Thunder Concept two levels higher after entering the Profound Assimilation Formation, they thought Duan Ling Tian was still far behind compared to Huang Daniu and Nangong Chen's progress.

Of course, this was because none of them knew about the real changes that happened to Duan Ling Tian. If they had found out about it, they would most probably stand there dumbfounded the entire day.

"The Profound Assimilation Formation is really weird this time. First, it ran continuously for 60 hours. After that, there's actually someone who did not benefit from it at all," Guo Chong knitted his brows together. He kept feeling like this matter was a little fishy.

"Perhaps, the reason why the Profound Assimilation Formation ran for 60 continuous hours is related to Hu Fei? After all, out of the ten people who entered the Profound Assimilation Formation, Hu Fei's the only one that had a problem. It's like he entered the Profound Assimilation Formation for no reason at all!" Tian Gu voiced out his speculation.

"Yeah, I think this is very likely," Yu Fang nodded her head in agreement.

"Indeed," Qi Yu agreed as well.

The corners of Duan Ling Tian's mouth unconsciously twitched a little upon hearing the words from the four Peak Masters.

He did not expect Hu Fei would somehow become his scapegoat. If Hu Fei found out about the truth, he would most likely be so aggravated that he would throw up at least three liters of blood until he died from lack of blood!

"Alright, let us call it a day. We'll depart on time two weeks later," Guo Chong added.

The moment the words left his mouth, he swept a glance at Qi Yu, Tian Gu and Yu Fang. It was apparent that his last sentence was aimed towards the three of them. The three of them nodded their heads before leading their disciples back to their own Peaks.

"Are we going to the secret place that the Martial Emperor left behind in two weeks time?" Perhaps the Five Element Sect's young disciples, including Huang Daniu, had no idea what the words 'we depart in two weeks' uttered by Guo Chong meant, but Duan Ling Tian definitely knew what it meant. This time, the reason why Five Element Sect was so generous that they opened the Profound Assimilation Formation was undoubtedly for the sake of the secret treasure that the Martial Emperor had left behind.

There was something in the secret treasure that the Five Element Sect wanted urgently!

The thing that the Five Element Sect wanted the most was undoubtedly the Profundity Fragment that might be hidden in the Martial Emperor's secret treasure. It was the key to breaking through to the Martial Monarch stage for a Peak Void powerhouse.

On the way back to Wood Peak, Qi Yu lifted up a hand and brought out four pieces of spirit fruit. "These four spirit fruits here are the cultivation resources that we obtained from the sect resources after Wood Peak became the First Peak of the Five Element Sect. I have two pieces of two different types here. It's just right for the two of you to take one each."

The four spirit fruits were composed of two different types, and there were two pieces each.

One of was fully blue in color. It emitted a blue luster that gives off a faint fragrant scent.

The other one was green in color. Its body was covered in red tiny lines that were interlaced with each other.

"Blue Origin Fruit? Blood Stained Fruit?"

The instance Duan Ling Tian saw these two fruits, his eyes darkened instantly. A look of joy appeared on his face.

After he had gone through the memories of the Rebirth Martial Emperor, he immediately recognized the two spirit fruits. They were both spirit fruits that were exclusive to a Void Interpretation martial artist

The medicinal efficacy was not inferior to the Origin Enhancing Fruit that he and Huang Daniu had consumed before.

"Wow, everything is going smoothly according to my wish!" Duan Ling Tian's eyes lit up at once.

Chapter 915: The Secret Treasure of the Martial Emperor

"Peak Master, these spirit fruits were issued by the sect?" Huang Daniu asked curiously when he took the two spirit fruits. "Then, does this mean that the other Peaks would get them too?"

"Of course," Qi Yu nodded his head. "However, the benefits that the other Peaks get are not as good as ours. After all, we're the First Peak of the Five Element Sect. This time, the Sect Elders have spent quite a huge amount of money when they went to purchase them. They managed to bid for ten spirit fruits that are exclusively for Void Interpretation martial artists. These ten spirit fruits are distributed according to the Five Peaks' ranking. Wood Peak is the First Peak so we get four; Gold Peak is the Second Peak so they get three; the Fire Peak gets two because they're the Third Peak, and the Water Peak, which is also the Fourth Peak, gets only one. As for Earth Peak, since they're at the bottom, they get nothing at all," Qi Yu finished in one breath.

"What?" Upon hearing Qi Yu's words, Duan Ling Tian and Huang Daniu could not hide their shock, "The Earth Peak didn't even get one?"

"Yes," Qi Yu nodded his head before sighing. "Speaking of that, the current situation that Earth Peak is in is exactly the same situation that Wood Peak was in for the past two decades."

"No wonder all of the Peaks in the Five Element Sect were trying so hard to get a place in front, and nobody was willing to be in the bottom. It turns out that the competition among the Five Peaks in the Five Element Sect is actually this intense!" Duan Ling Tian inhaled as he muttered to himself.

Although he already knew that the competition between the Five Peaks of the Five Element Sect was intense, he did not think it would be THIS intense to the point that it could even be described with the word 'horrifying'.

"No matter what, our Wood Peak will be the First Peak of the Five Element Sect for the next three years! Wood Peak will be the first to get our hands on all the goodies no matter what kind of sect resources they have!" Qi Yu smiled.

Duan Ling Tian and Huang Daniu nodded their heads as a smile appeared on their faces as well.

"With these spirit fruits, I'm sure you'll be able to raise your cultivation base to another level in the shortest time possible. Two weeks later, twenty young disciples, including you two, will follow the Peak Masters of the Five Peaks and leave the Five Element Sect!" Qi Yu cast a glance at the spirit fruits in Duan Ling Tian and Huang Daniu's hands as he slowly said.

"Peak Master, the sect is making such a huge preparation... Where exactly are we going in two weeks time?" Huang Daniu asked with a confused look on his face.

Qi Yu, the Peak Master of Wood Peak, could not help but turn glum as he said, "Well, you'll find out where it is two weeks later. You must hurry and seize this time to cultivate and improve your strength as much as possible. You'll only be able to survive in that place by increasing your strength."

He was reminding Duan Ling Tian and Huang Daniu through his words that the place that they were about to go in two weeks time would be life-threatening.

"What?" Horror dawned on Huang Daniu's face instantly. It had never crossed his mind that the place that they would be going in two weeks time would be this dangerous.

Duan Ling Tian, on the other hand, was very calm. He was so calm that it was a little startling.

Naturally, he was so calm because he already knew where they would be going in two weeks. The place that they were going was

the Martial Emperor's secret treasure. It was full of opportunities inside, but at the same time, it contained danger as well.

However, compared to the danger that was hidden in the place, the greatest threat was the young powerhouses who would be entering the place with them.

After all, the people who would be entering the Martial Emperor's secret treasure this time was not only limited to the people from the Five Element Sect. As far as Duan Ling Tian knew, the four major forces of the southern area of the northern dessert would be going as well.

The Skywolf Fort, Blade Sect, Empyrean Temple, and Emotion Severing Sect.

The reason why the Skywolf Fort organized the Martial Competition of the Ten Dynasties and picked the most outstanding young talent among the Ten Dynasties was due to the Martial Emperor's secret treasure.

Then, the Blade Sect, Empyrean Temple, and the Emotion Severing Sect successively arrived at Skywolf Fort as well, forcing Skywolf Fort to share their yields by taking away many of the young talents that came from the Ten Dynasties.

Originally, Duan Ling Tian wanted to join the Blade Sect. However, who knew that halfway through his journey something happened, and he got hunted by the Skywolf Fort people.

After the Devilseal Tablet's abnormal change, he was unconscious and was thus sent to the eastern side of the northern desert. It led to him eventually joining Wood Peak of the Five Element Sect by coincidence.

'No matter what, I do owe the Five Element Sect a debt of gratitude. If it wasn't for the Five Element Sect, I would not have the chance to enter the Profound Assimilation Formation and obtained such a huge breakthrough. Although I might get similar

treatment if I went to the Blade Sect, I'm enjoying all the treatment from the Five Element Sect after all.' Duan Ling Tian's heart jolted. 'Due to this reason, when I enter the Martial Emperor's secret treasure, I'll help the Five Element Sect and Wood Peak obtain the things that they want, apart from the few treasures that I'm going to keep for myself! This can also be considered as me repaying my debts to them,' Duan Ling Tian thought to himself.

Qi Yu was still staring at Duan Ling Tian and Huang Daniu. After he had told them that the place that they were going in two weeks would be quite dangerous, his gaze did not leave the two of them.

He could see that Huang Daniu's face was filled with horror, and Duan Ling Tian had a calm expression on his face.

The contrast between the two of them was extremely huge. At this moment, the good impression that Qi Yu had of Duan Ling Tian immediately rose up a few notches.

'Unfortunately, neither Wood Peak nor the Five Element Sect will be able to tie Duan Ling Tian down. Otherwise, in the future, the Five Element Sect would definitely be able to march towards glory under his guidance!' Qi Yu thought about this and sighed.

Very soon, the three of them went back to Wood Peak. After Qi Yu bade Duan Ling Tian and Hu Daniu goodbye, he immediately left.

"Duan Ling Tian!"

At this moment, Huang Daniu who was lost in his thoughts finally regained his senses and looked at Duan Ling Tian. "I noticed that you seemed very calm during the journey back. The Peak Master just said that the place that we'll go in two weeks is lifethreatening! Aren't you worried?" In the end, Huang Daniu could not help but voice out his own concern.

"Worried? What's there to be worried about?" Duan Ling Tian laughed and shook his head. Then, his eyes darkened instantly as

he muttered to himself, "How can you catch a tiger cub without entering the tiger's lair?"

How can you catch a tiger cub without entering the tiger's lair?

Although Duan Ling Tian's voice was not loud, Huang Daniu could still hear him clearly. A light flashed across his eyes as he asked with a smile on his face, "Duan Ling Tian, is there something you know that I'm not aware of?"

"Looks like you're actually quite smart! Just from my twelve short words, you immediately deduced that I know something you're not aware of," Duan Ling Tian scolded jokingly as he laughed.

"Duan Ling Tian, Peak Master refused to say anything. Don't tell me you're not going to tell me as well?" Huang Daniu stared at Duan Ling Tian with eager eyes. His face was filled with anticipation.

"I remember earlier, somebody actually showed off in front of me. He said that his Concept had risen by three levels after coming out from the Profound Assimilation Formation, and I can't compare to him at all because mine only rose by two levels!" Duan Ling Tian narrowed his eyes as he looked at Huang Daniu with an indifferent smile.

Huang Daniu could not suppress the wry smile that crept up his face. He felt like he had dug his own grave earlier.

Slightly startled, Huang Daniu said with a pitiful face, "Duan Ling Tian, why are you so petty?"

"If I'm not mistaken, the place that we're going to with the Peak Masters in two weeks is the Martial Emperor's secret treasure!" Naturally, Duan Ling Tian would not care about such petty things. When he saw Huang Daniu with a pitiful expression on his face, Duan Ling Tian no longer teased him and proceeded to tell him about the things that he knew.

"The Martial Emperor's secret treasure?" Upon hearing this, Huang Daniu was taken aback. After he regained his senses, he narrowed his eyes immediately.

A Martial Emperor powerhouse!

To him, this only existed in rumors.

However, the ferociousness of a Martial Emperor powerhouse was definitely unquestionable. After all, a Martial Emperor powerhouse stood at the peak of the Cloud Continent. A secret treasure that was left behind by such a powerhouse would definitely not be a simple one.

Huang Daniu's breathing suddenly quickened. After a long while, he finally relaxed. He stared at Duan Ling Tian as he asked, "Duan Ling Tian, a-are you sure?"

"What? You still don't believe me?" Duan Ling Tian laughed as he shook his head, "Come on, think about it yourself. Why do you think the Five Element Sect's senior officials would suddenly activate the Profound Assimilation Formation and help elevate our strengths? Obviously, it's because they want us to help them search for something at the Martial Emperor's secret treasure!"

Huang Daniu became silent. However, an intense brilliance could be seen gleaming in his eyes as he muttered to himself, "Wow, I really can't wait to go there! There must be a lot of great things in the Martial Emperor's secret treasure right?"

Right now, he appeared like a completely different person compared to the Huang Daniu who had a look of dread on his face earlier.

As the saying went, 'humans die in pursuit of wealth while birds die in pursuit of food'. This proverb was the most suitable to describe Huang Daniu currently.

"Alright, let's go back and cultivate first," Duan Ling Tian woke Huang Daniu who was still daydreaming. "We still have two more weeks to go. Do your best in breaking through to the Seventh Level Void Interpretation. Otherwise, you'll suffer quite a lot when we face the other young powerhouses from the other sects."

"There are other sects as well?" Huang Daniu who had regained his senses was dumbfounded.

"Of course!" Duan Ling Tian stated as a matter of fact, "Do you really think the greatest danger lies in the Martial Emperor's secret treasure? The real danger does not lie in the secret treasure but in the other young powerhouses instead. When you enter the secret treasure, even if you managed to get your hands on a treasure, you'll need to have the ability to protect it you know. Otherwise, everything you've done will be in vain because it'll end up in the hands of others!" As he reached the end of his sentence, his tone became much more serious.

Upon hearing that, Huang Daniu inhaled deeply and nodded his head solemnly, "I got it."

"Alright, that's great. Let's go then!" Duan Ling Tian bade Huang Daniu farewell and continued to make his way to the three-story pavilion situated on the mountainside in the distance.

That was the place where they were currently staying.

"Duan Ling Tian, after I've given some serious thought to it, I feel like something is not quite right. Why must the sect's senior officials bring us, the young disciples, to the Martial Emperor's secret treasure? Wouldn't it be easier if they just bring those elders there?" As if he was reminded of something, Huang Daniu frowned before continuing, "The elders who are much older are more powerful than us. If we go, we'll be like cannon fodders before the older powerhouses from the other sects."

"What if I tell you that there's an age restriction to enter the Martial Emperor's secret treasure?" Duan Ling Tian patiently explained and answered Huang Daniu's questions.

Chapter 916: Ninth Level Void Interpretation!

"Age restriction? How does that work?" Huang Daniu was puzzled.

"You must have heard of the Age Measuring Pearl right? As long as an Inscription Formation is made using the Age Measuring Pearl as the ingredient, coupled with a few other Inscriptions, it can easily set the age restriction to a certain age group and restrict them from passing through the gate that's shrouded by the Inscription Formation," Duan Ling Tian explained patiently.

"Oh, so that's how it is." Huang Daniu suddenly saw the picture much more clearly. At the same time, he asked curiously, "Then, in this case, the secret treasure that the Martial Emperor left behind has such a restriction set by the Inscription Formation?"

"Yes," Duan Ling Tian nodded his head.

"What's the age limit?" Huang Daniu asked inquisitively.

Forty years old," Duan Ling Tian replied.

"Forty years old? So, that's to say only the younger martial artists can enter this place... Ah, no wonder!" Huang Daniu finally understood.

As he recalled Duan Ling Tian's words from earlier, he started to feel a tiny bit of pressure. The pressure pressed down on him so much that he began to feel a little out of breath.

"Then let us hurry back and cultivate now! At that time, I'm sure many battles will break out with all the young powerhouses from the other major sects also entering the Martial Emperor's secret treasure!" The moment these words left Huang Daniu's mouth, he did not even wait for Duan Ling Tian to react before he turned into a flash of lightning and entered the three-story pavilion that was situated on the mountainside. He disappeared from Duan ling

Tian's eyes in an instant.

"This fellow..." Duan Ling Tian was startled by Huang Daniu's reaction. He could not help but let out a bitter laugh and returned to his own bedroom at the three-story pavilion as well.

The moment he reached his room, he sat cross-legged on the bed. Without wasting any time, he proceeded to shove the two spirit fruits into his mouth one by one. The spirit fruits turned into cooling sap before it flowed down his throat into his body.

Two different spirit fruits had different medicinal efficacy.

If it was any other ordinary martial artist, he would definitely not be as daring as Duan Ling Tian was and swallow two different spirit fruits in a go. After all, it would be easy for the medicinal efficacies of the spirit fruits to clash with each other.

If the medicinal efficacies clashed with each other, a strong wave of power would appear and erupt inside the body. It would cause great harm to the body's meridians and internal organs. The best scenario would be him going berserk, and the worst scenario would be death!

Duan Ling Tian was certainly someone that could not be easily compared to an ordinary martial artist. For this reason, he did not need to worry that the two spirit fruit's medicinal efficacies would clash with each other to compete for the right of way. This was because there was another medicinal efficacy hidden in his body that was multiple times greater and more tyrannical than the two spirit fruits!

The medicinal efficacy of the Rebirth Pill!

As expected, when the two spirit fruits' medicinal efficacies merged with Duan Ling Tian's Origin Energy, a wave of medicinal efficacy that was a lot more powerful appeared instantly just as the two spirit fruits were about to clash and compete for dominance.

The moment the medicinal efficacy of the Rebirth Pill noticed the

two spirit fruits, it immediately surged out of his Dantian like it was high on steroids. The moment the Rebirth Pill's tyrannical medicinal efficacy merged with the Origin Energy, it prompted the Origin Energy to rush towards the two spirit fruit's medicinal efficacies just as they were about to collide with each other. It smashed into the two spirit fruits immediately.

Wham!

The Origin Energy that was catalyzed by the Rebirth Pill's medicinal efficacy, and the Origin Energy that was catalyzed by the two spirit fruits' medicinal efficacies immediately converged. The Rebirth Pill took the initiative and started to go on a rampage in Duan Ling Tian's body.

In that instance, all Duan Ling Tian could feel was the trembling of the meridians in his body. Even his internal organs had started to tremble as well.

Without any hesitation, Duan Ling Tian hurriedly calmed himself down with rapt attention.

The Nine Dragons War Sovereign Technique, Sword Dragon Form!

Along with Duan Ling Tian's quiet cultivation, the Origin Energy that was wreaking havoc in his body began to go back on track and began to operate based on the mental cultivation method of the Seventh Form of the Nine Dragons War Sovereign Technique, the Sword Dragon Form.

"With this speed, I'll be able to make a breakthrough to the Eighth Level Void Interpretation in no time!" Feeling the Origin Energy that was swiftly flowing in his body like waves of tempestuous tsunamis, Duan Ling Tian felt a jolt in his heart. He was completely overjoyed.

Previously, with the help of Nangong Chen's Spiritual Energy, the overbearing medicinal efficacy of the Rebirth Pill had catalyzed his Origin Energy and allowed him to enter the Seventh Level Void Interpretation.

Not only that, it had also led him to the bottleneck leading up to the Eight Level Void Interpretation.

This time, with the two spirit fruits' medicinal efficacy in his body, the tyrannical Rebirth Pill's medicinal efficacy once again entered his system. Although it was not as fast as the last time, the speed was not slow at all.

Moreover, other than the Rebirth Pill's medicinal efficacy, the medicinal efficacies from the two other spirit fruits continued to flow into his Origin Energy and merged with it.

Wham!

It did not take too long before Duan Ling Tian discovered the Origin Energy in his body that was like a ferocious tsunami had breached the bottleneck. It successfully helped him in breaking through to the Eighth Level Void Interpretation.

The second the Eighth Level Void Interpretation was broken through, and the Origin Energy in Duan Ling Tian's body also began to undergo a thorough transformation in terms of quality.

"What a powerful Origin Energy!" After he had broken through to the Eight Level Void Interpretation, Duan Ling Tian was completely taken by surprise. He was absolutely delighted.

At the same time, the Origin Energy that was catalyzed by the Rebirth Pill continued to flow swiftly. It swept across the meridians in his body in a regular pattern, helping him to further improve.

Time continued to pass by quietly.

Duan Ling Tian forgot about the time as he cultivated. However, he could still clearly feel the changes in his body.

Since he had made his breakthrough to the Eighth Level Void

Interpretation, the tyrannical medicinal efficacy of the Rebirth Pill continued to guide the other two spirit fruits' medicinal efficacies and cultivated based on the mental cultivation method of the Nine Dragons War Sovereign Technique's Seventh Form, the Sword Dragon Form. It was as if it did not know what exhaustion was.

After God-knew-how-long, Duan Ling Tian could sense clearly that the bottleneck that was leading up to the Ninth Level Void Interpretation had appeared as well.

After another period of God-knew-how-long, he once again felt that the Origin Energy that was rolling out of his meridians had rapidly broken through the bottleneck that led up to the Ninth Level Void Interpretation as well.

Wham!

A light sound resonated in his body, causing Duan Ling Tian to open his eyes abruptly. Instantly, happiness and excitement filled his face, "It's a breakthrough! It's the Ninth Level Void Interpretation!"

As the milky white Origin Energy around Duan Ling Tian's body filled the air, the Heaven and Earth Energy above his head whirled and converged into a clear Heaven and Earth Phenomenon. It was a total of 120 ancient horned dragons' silhouettes. It told everyone that his cultivation base was currently at the Ninth Level Void Interpretation.

"Huh?" Without warning, the Origin Energy around Duan Ling Tian gave a wild jerk before it suddenly dissipated without a trace.

"Barf!" Almost instantly, Duan Ling Tian's eyes narrowed, and his body shuddered as he spat out a mouthful of blood. The blood was splashed all over the floor next to the bed like an eye-catching blooming red rose.

There was no time for him to wipe the blood off the corner of his mouth, Duan Ling Tian inhaled deeply and closed his eyes again.

The Nine Dragons War Sovereign Technique, Sword Dragon Form!

At this moment, Duan Ling Tian was hurriedly cultivating the mental cultivation method as he redirected the restless Origin Energy to the right path again. He feared that he would once again be injured by it.

Previously, he forgot to continue directing the restless Origin Energy in his body because he was caught up in trying to test the newly broken through Origin Energy. Due to this, it went out of control and ran amuck in his body, injuring his internal organs as a result.

'The medicinal efficacy of the Rebirth Pill is already tyrannical, coupled with the medicinal efficacies of the two spirit fruits, it's not something that my body can easily handle," Duan Ling Tian thought to himself.

However, Duan Ling Tian also discovered that there was not much left of the two spirit fruits' medicinal efficacies after they had successfully helped him with two breakthroughs. It appeared that they would run out very soon.

After who knew how long, Duan Ling Tian finally noticed that the two spirit fruits' medicinal efficacies had finally been exhausted.

Although they were already exhausted, he still could not retract the Rebirth Pill's medicinal efficacy. It was still propelling the Origin Energy forward.

After a while, Duan Ling Tian noticed that his cultivation base had been raised again. The bottleneck leading to the Void Transformation had also appeared as well.

Wham!

The tyrannical medicinal efficacy of the Rebirth Pill propelled the Origin Energy. After it had run a cycle in Duan Ling Tian's body based on the mental cultivation method of the Nine Dragons War Sovereign Technique, Sword Dragon Form, it proceeded to slam against the bottleneck.

The bottleneck trembled but there was no sign of it being broken.

Wham! Wham! Wham! Wham!

• • •

With the impetus from the Rebirth Pill's tyrannical medicinal efficacy, the Origin Energy seemed to not know exhaustion as it slammed at the final bottleneck of the Void Interpretation again and again. The bottleneck that showed no sign of being broken at first began to ease up. In the end, there were a few times where it was nearly smashed open.

Wham!

The Origin Energy charged forward and pounded hard at the bottleneck once again.

The bottleneck eased up for a moment. Although it seemed like it was about to be broken, it was still not broken as it stood firmly on the spot.

'Just one more time will do!' Duan Ling Tian inhaled deeply. Unfortunately, he started to notice with regret that the Origin Energy that was being propelled by the tyrannical medicinal efficacy of the Rebirth Pill had started to slow down after making half a cycle in his body.

The overbearing medicinal efficacy of the Rebirth Pill left as quickly as it came. In just a blink of an eye, it scurried away and hid in his Dantian again.

'Let's try again,' Duan Ling Tian smiled bitterly. At the same time, he proceeded to push the Origin Energy by himself so that it could complete the other half cycle and continue to charge towards the bottleneck that led up to the Void Transformation. However, the bottleneck that had already eased up only quivered a little, but it did not break at all.

Compared to the Origin Energy that was being propelled by the Rebirth Pill's overbearing medicinal efficacy, the Origin Energy that Duan Ling Tian propelled by himself was so weak that it was like it had just gone through a long period of starvation.

'Just a little bit! Even without the tyrannical medicinal efficacy of that Rebirth Pill, I'm sure I'll be able to break through and enter the First Level Void Transformation after ten or a hundred cycles!' Duan Ling Tian thought to himself before he continued to propel his Origin Energy to make the breakthrough by himself.

After a short while, Duan Ling Tian had managed to make another five to six cycles by propelling his own Origin Energy. Although the bottleneck kept easing up, Duan Ling Tian's Origin Energy could not break it at all.

"Duan Ling Tian!" Just as he was about to continue, a familiar voice rang out from outside the house. It prompted him to return to his senses as he opened his eyes wide.

'Just a little bit more!' With a wry smile, Duan Ling Tian got down from the bed and went forward to open his room door. When he saw the young man outside, he asked, "Chen Wei, what brings you here?"

The person standing outside the door was none other than Chen Wei, Ke Zheng's direct disciple.

Originally, it was because he met Ke Zheng and his disciple in Driftcloud Town that prompted him to follow the two of them here to the Five Element Sect.

Speaking of that, it was indeed fortunate that he encountered Ke Zheng and Chen Wei.

Chapter 917: A Gloomy Huang Daniu

"The Peak Master asked me to get you and Daniu," Chen Wei smiled.

"The Peak Master's looking for us?" Duan Ling Tian was startled. Had it been two weeks already?

"Yes," Chen Wei nodded. "We're all waiting for you and Daniu. Once the both of you are ready, we'll make our way to Gold Peak to meet with the other four Peak Masters and their young disciples."

"We? Are you going too?" Duan Ling Tian was surprised.

"It's not just me. There are another three Wood Peak disciples who'll be coming along too," Chen Wei smiled. "Although I've no idea where we are headed, six of us are allowed to participate since Wood Peak is the First Peak of the Five Element Sect. The quota for rest of the Peaks is not as many as ours. To be honest, that's not bad at all."

"Wood Peak is allowed to bring six people? And the other Peaks are not allowed to?" Duan Ling Tian raised his brows. It had never crossed his mind that there would be so many people from Wood Peak coming along. At the same time, he was curious about how many people were allowed to come along from the other Peaks.

"Yes," Chen Wei nodded his head again. "This time, the number of people allowed to come along is allocated based on the Five Peaks' ranking. Wood Peak is the First Peak, so we can bring six people; Gold Peak is the Second Peak, and they can bring five people; Fire Peak, which is also the Third Peak, can bring four people; and Water Peak can bring three people because they're the Fourth Peak; and finally, the Earth Peak which is the Last Peak can only bring two people." Chen Wei said in one breath.

"This means that this time, there'll be a total of twenty young disciples going with the five Peak Masters?" Duan Ling Tian raised

his brows and muttered to himself.

"I'll call Daniu, and we'll meet with Peak Master and the rest after that."After he had told Duan Ling Tian this, Chen Wei proceeded to the bottom story of the three-story pavilion and knocked on Huang Daniu's door to call him out.

When Huang Daniu came out of his room, his face was ruddy, and he was in a very good mood.

After Huang Daniu greeted Chen Wei, he immediately shifted his glance to Duan Ling Tian who was hovering in the air. He grinned as he asked confidently, "Duan Ling Tian, shall we have a practice match?"

Upon hearing Huang Daniu's words, Duan Ling Tian narrowed his eyes and asked curiously, "How do you want to do it?"

"How about we do it like this? I won't borrow the Earth Energy, and you're not allowed to use the Wind Concept. Let us battle without our weapons. How about that?" Huang Daniu's eyes were gleaming brightly, he was itching for a fight.

"Daniu, you dare to challenge me huh? Looks like your breakthrough this time must be quite impressive," Duan Ling Tian smiled.

"So? Do you dare or not?" A bright smile crept up on Huang Daniu's face. His tone was full of provocation.

"Why not? However, I think it's better if we go slightly further away. Let's not disturb Little Xuan's cultivation," Duan Ling Tian answered without fear. At the same time, he looked at the master bedroom in the second story of the three-story pavilion. A hint of warmth swept across his eyes.

Without any warning, he flew out and made his way to the distant horizon.

Duan Ling Tian gradually turned into a small black dot before Huang Daniu and Chen Wei's eyes. They were both hovering in the sky.

"As expected of you, Duan Ling Tian! What a straightforward person!" The smile on Huang Daniu's face turned wider. All the same, he flew out and followed Duan Ling Tian.

"These two fellows... The Peak Master's waiting for the both of you," Chen Wei smiled wryly and shook his head before following their footsteps as well.

In the sky, Duan Ling Tian and Huang Daniu stood across each other as they stared directly into each other's eyes. Their bodies were emanating an intense battle aura as if it was about to explode at any time.

Huang Daniu glared at Duan Ling Tian. The atmosphere was tensed as if he was facing a great enemy.

As for Duan Ling Tian, he appeared very calm and collected. His gaze was tranquil as if he did not see Huang Daniu as a threat to himself at all.

Naturally, in his opinion, he really did not see Huang Daniu as a threat at all.

When Huang Daniu first came out of his room, his keen Spiritual Energy immediately probed Huang Daniu's cultivation and found out that he was at the Eighth Level Void Interpretation.

Eighth Level Void Interpretation with a Ninth Level Intermediate Earth Concept.

This was Huang Daniu's current strength.

"Daniu, bring it on," Duan Ling Tian smiled.

Huang Daniu saw how at ease Duan Ling Tian was at the moment. It was apparent that Duan Ling Tian did not think too highly of him. With his eyes narrowed, he warned in a deep voice, "Duan Ling Tian, you better be careful. I'm no longer the Huang Daniu from two weeks ago!"

"Bring it on," Duan Ling Tian nodded his head. The smile on his face did not waver at all.

When Huang Daniu saw this, his face darkened instantly.

Although Duan Ling Tian was his friend, he could not suppress the anger that was rising from his heart upon seeing Duan Ling Tian's low regard for him. He could not contain his temper anymore.

"Ahh!" Without any warning, Huang Daniu roared out loud. The Origin Energy on his body instantly burst out and merged with the Earth Concept that was rolling out. It transformed into waves of khaki energy.

A small part of the khaki energy solidified into form beneath his feet, forming a thick stone platform.

Boom!!

The moment the stone platform appeared, Huan Daniu's legs leaped up like a running cheetah before he landed on the stone platform. He cracked the stone platform into pieces before it was turned into dust by the vast energy.

In the next moment, a gust of vast rolling air blasted out and transformed into a hurricane that blew in all directions with the cracked stone platform in the center. It was so windy that Chen Wei, who was standing at the side, could not help but squint his eyes as well.

The robe on Chen Wei's body began to billow from the strong wind.

At this moment, Chen Wei could not help but narrow his eyes when he saw Huang Daniu's blurry figure charging towards Duan Ling Tian. He was stunned for a moment.

"Since when did Daniu become so strong?" Before Chen Wei could make out the scene in front, he immediately saw the 210 silhouettes of ancient horned dragons that appeared above Huang

Daniu's head. He gaped in astonishment.

Without any spirit weapon, he managed to display 210 ancient horned dragons' silhouettes. He knew very well what this meant.

A martial artist who was at the Eighth Level Void Interpretation could easily demonstrate the Ninth Level Void Interpretation Concept.

A martial artist who was at the Ninth Level Void Interpretation could easily demonstrate the Eighth Level Void Interpretation Concept too.

If another middle-aged powerhouse from Wood Peak demonstrated this kind of strength, he would not be surprised at all.

However, the person who was demonstrating this strength at this moment was none other than Huang Daniu.

The Huang Daniu who only demonstrated the strength of Sixth Level Void Interpretation cultivation base with a Sixth Level Void Interpretation Concept almost a month ago!

Compared to the Huang Daniu from before, the Huang Daniu now had completely transformed into another person. It gave him a strange and unfamiliar feeling.

Wham!

Before he even regained his senses, another loud noise resonated in the air.

At the same time, an even more terrifying flurry of airwaves swept out and set off a hurricane. It blew and forced him to retreat a few meters back.

What had just happened?

Chen Wei opened his eyes with a great effort. Soon, he noticed the two figures that had clashed in the distance.

At this moment, the two of them were each punching out a fist.

Originally, the two people in front could be considered as his acquaintances, but right now, he felt like he had only just met these two people for the first time.

Other than the huge, tall young man who had 210 silhouettes of ancient horned dragons above his head, the other purple-clad young man had another 220 silhouettes of ancient horned dragons above his head.

The strength of 220 ancient horned dragons

A martial artist who was at the Ninth Level Void Interpretation who possessed a Ninth Level Void Interpretation Concept!

"Duan Ling Tian, he..." Chen Wei was so shocked that his mouth was wide open. When he saw the purple figure in the distant, he was completely taken aback. He was unable to recover his senses for a long time.

Wham!

Another loud sound reverberated in the air, and it took Chen Wei by surprise. He could not help but shudder at the sound.

He could clearly see the dense purple thunderbolts that were intertwined with Duan Ling Tian's fist swept out in the sky and easily overrode the khaki energy that surrounded Huang Daniu's fist.

In the next second, Duan Ling Tian's body leaned forward. As for Huang Daniu, he was sent flying by that one fist like an arrow that left the bowstring.

"Barf!" Huang Daniu who was sent flying was completely flushed in the face. The vital energy and blood in his body swelled up, and he immediately spat out a mouthful of blood.

A moment later, Huang Daniu finally managed to brace himself after being sent flying several dozens of meters away. His injury finally healed more or less after he took the wound-curing medicine.

Naturally, this was also because Duan Ling Tian had shown a little mercy earlier. Otherwise, it would be impossible for Huang Daniu to suffer only minor injuries.

"Duan Ling Tian, you freak! Monster! You've actually broken through to the Ninth Level Void Interpretation! Just with that two spirit fruits? Did they really contain so much medicinal efficacy?" Huang Daniu who had finally returned to his senses could not help but scold loudly. However, as soon as he reached the end of his sentence, the volume of his voice lowered as well.

He dared to challenge Duan Ling Tian earlier because he thought he had understood the medicinal efficacy of the two spirit fruits that Qi Yu, the Peak Master of Wood Peak, had given them.

In his opinion, Duan Ling Tian's cultivation base had only managed to achieve a breakthrough to the Seventh Level Void Interpretation in the Battle of the Five Peaks a month ago.

Even if Duan Ling Tian had completely absorbed and digested the two spirit fruits' medicinal efficacies, the most he could go up to was the Eighth Level Void Interpretation. It was impossible for him to make a breakthrough to the Ninth Level Void Interpretation.

However, the strength that Duan Ling Tian demonstrated today had made him deeply aware of how wrong and ridiculous his previous thoughts were!

"Did you think I didn't make a breakthrough to the Ninth Level Void Interpretation?" When Duan Ling Tian heard Huang Daniu's words, he could not help but be a little stunned.

"Of course!" Huang Daniu replied gruffly, "If I had known earlier that you've already made a breakthrough to the Ninth Level Void Interpretation, I would've never fought with you in the first place! I'm not a masochist okay!"

As he said this, Huang Daniu turned glum immediately.

When Duan Ling Tian saw the glum look on Huang Daniu's face, he burst out laughing instantly. His laugh was as brilliant as the sun.

"Duan Ling Tian, Daniu, w-when did you become s-so strong?" Chen Wei flew forward and stared at them with his mouth agape.

"Your Void Interpretation Concepts managed to make a breakthrough to the Ninth Level in the Profound Assimilation Formation? And Duan Ling Tian, you actually comprehended the Thunder Concept?" Chen Wei was completely filled with curiosity and bewilderment at this moment.

"That's right! Our Concepts were broken through in the Profound Assimilation Formation. However, my Intermediate Earth Concept has been elevated to the Ninth Level in the Profound Assimilation Formation. That's three freaking level of elevation, you know!" Huang Daniu grinned.

"So, are you saying that you've now comprehended the Ninth Level Intermediate Earth concept?" Chen Wei's eyes were as wide as saucers as he stared at Huang Daniu. His face was completely filled with amazement.

Although he had heard that the Profound Assimilation Formation was not something simple, it had never crossed his mind that its strength would be so terrifying to the extent that it raised Huang Daniu's Sixth Level Intermediate Earth Concept three levels up in just a go.

Chapter 918: Four Hours

"That's right!" Huang Daniu looked very proud. "I managed to raise my Sixth Level Intermediate Earth Concept to the Ninth Level Intermediate Earth Concept in the Profound Assimilation Formation!"

As he said this, he looked at Duan Ling Tian again. His smile turned even prouder as he continued, "I'm better than Duan Ling Tian in this aspect! His Intermediate Thunder Concept was originally at the Seventh Level. Although he was elevated to the Ninth Level in the Profound Assimilation Formation, it was only elevated two levels!"

When Duan Ling Tian saw Huang Daniu bringing this matter up again to even the score with him, Duan Ling Tian merely shook his head. He was too lazy to bother with him.

"I heard that the Profound Assimilation Formation is not simple, but I never thought that it's actually THIS powerful! To the extent that it could elevate your Void Interpretation Concept to the Ninth Level!" Chen Wei exclaimed in envy.

Then, he looked at Duan Ling Tian again before smiling wryly, "Duan Ling Tian, I always thought that you've only comprehended the Third Level Intermediate Wind Concept. To my surprise, you've actually comprehended another Seventh Level Thunder Concept!"

Previously, like most people, he thought Duan Ling Tian was so strong was because of his innate ability. If it was not for his innate ability, Duan Ling Tian would probably not be a part of the young and outstanding disciples in the Five Element Sect.

However, right now, he was deeply aware of how stupid and ridiculous his previous thoughts were.

"Duan Ling Tian really did conceal it well..." Huang Daniu looked

at Duan Ling Tian. His eyes gleamed brightly as if he could see through everything. "Right now, even if he demonstrates a third Concept other than the Thunder and Wind Concept, I don't think I'll be surprised anymore."

Upon hearing Huang Daniu's words, the corner of Duan Ling Tian's mouth unknowingly twitched a little. Although he knew that Huang Daniu simply blurted that out without putting much thought into it, his heart could not help but jolt upon hearing them.

He did indeed comprehend a third Void Interpretation Concept!

Not only did he have a third Void Interpretation Concept, he had even comprehended a fourth Void Interpretation Concept too. His Earth and Sword Concepts were both at the Void Interpretation Concept currently.

However, Chen Wei did not take Huang Daniu's words seriously.

In his opinion, with Duan Ling Tian's age, it was already shocking enough that he comprehended two strong Void Interpretation Concepts. It was impossible for him to comprehend a third Void Interpretation Concept even if he was a Variant.

"Your cultivation base..." Chen Wei quickly swept a glance at Huang Daniu before he looked at Duan Ling Tian. His face was filled with curiosity.

"The elevation of our cultivation bases is actually thanks to the spirit fruits that Peak Master gave us.... Those spirit fruits were the cultivation resources that the sect had given us," Huang Daniu smiled.

Chen Wei suddenly understood. The envy on his face became more prominent, but there were no hints of jealousy at all. He knew very well that the two of them deserved whatever they obtained.

If it had not been for Duan Ling Tian and Huang Daniu, Wood

Peak would never be able to get rid of the fate of being in the last place, let alone becoming the First Peak of the Five Element Sect.

If Wood Peak could not get rid of the destiny of being at the bottom, even if the sect had managed to obtain the spirit fruits, it would not be assigned to Wood Peak at all.

"Let's go. The Peak Master's waiting for us," Chen Wei told the two of them before flying away to the distance.

Duan Ling Tian nodded his head. Together with Huang Daniu, they caught up to Chen Wei and flew away to the distance.

Very quickly, Duan Ling Tian met Qi Yu, the Peak Master of Wood Peak, again.

Behind Qi Yu stood three other Wood Peak young disciples that were about thirty-five years old. It was apparent that they would be going to the Martial Emperor's secret treasure as well.

Duan Ling Tian stretched out his Spiritual Energy. In just a while, he found out the cultivation bases of the three other disciples. They were all at the Fourth Level Void Interpretation, just like how Chen Wei used to be. When Chen Wei had come to look for him earlier, he had noticed that Chen Wei's cultivation base had now entered the Fifth Level Void Interpretation.

"You're here?" Upon seeing Duan Ling Tian and Huang Daniu, Qi Yu who was usually calm let out an unusual smile.

"Peak Master," Duan Ling Tian and Huang Daniu greeted Qi Yu with a smile before they proceeded to stand behind him.

At this time, the three Wood Peak disciples who were hovering in the air behind Qi Yu greeted the two of them politely, "Senior Brother Duan Ling Tian, Senior Brother Huang Daniu." It flattered them a little. After all, these three Wood Peak disciples were actually much older than the two of them.

"Let's go!" Qi Yu guided the six of them and flew out at once, all the way towards Gold Peak. In just a while, they had already reached the sky outside of Gold Peak. There were already two groups of people gathered there, and they were standing across each other.

When they saw Duan Ling Tian and the other Wood Peak people, the two groups of people immediately looked over. They quickly fixed their gazes on two particular people from the Wood Peak group.

Duan Ling Tian and Qi Yu.

When Duan Ling Tian had first arrived at Wood Peak, he had defeated the direct disciple of a Wood Peak elder and even caused that elder to cripple his own cultivation base. Ever since then, Duan Ling Tian's fame had already spread throughout the entire Five Element Sect.

Later, during the Battle of the Five Peaks, Duan Ling Tian became even more famous!

He defeated the Nangong Twins who were the strongest — prior to his own arrival to the Five Element Sect — in the Five Element Sect. He even obtained the first place for the individual and team battle in the Battle of the Five Peaks, and helped Wood Peak become the First Peak of Five Element Sect!

Presently, Duan Ling Tian's reputation in the Five Element Sect could be compared to the mid-day sun. It even surpassed the Nangong Twins from Gold Peak.

Some of the Five Element Sect's disciples even secretly considered Duan Ling Tian as the strongest powerhouse among the younger generation in the sect because he could overpower the Nangong Twins from Gold Peak.

Qi Yu, the Peak Master of Wood Peak, who had been quiet for so many years suddenly launched a lightning attack in the Battle of the Five Peaks, inflicting serious injuries on Cha Bai, the Peak Master of Fire Peak, twice. At that moment, the Five Element Sect's disciples who were present finally knew, that Qi Yu, the person who was known as the second strongest powerhouse in the Five Element Sect, did not get his nickname for no reason. He indeed possessed such a strength,

At that time, Qi Yu had also become the subject of discussion among the Five Element Sect's disciples.

The two group of people were actually the members of Water and Earth Peak who had arrived earlier. Yu Fang and Tian Gu, the Peak Masters for Water and Earth Peak, came forward and greeted Qi Yu with a smile, "Peak Master Qi Yu."

"Peak Master Yu Fang, Peak Master Tian Gu," Qi Yu greeted them one by one with a courteous smile.

Duan Ling Tian who was standing at the side swept a glance across the members of Water and Earth Peaks one by one. He noticed that other than the two Peak Masters, Yu Fang, and Tian Gu, the two Peaks had a total of five disciples added up together

There was a total of three members from Water Peak. Other than Tan Huan and the other female disciple whom he had seen twice previously, there was another female disciple among them.

Earth Peak, on the other hand, only had two people, all of whom he was with. They were none other than Tian Zhen and the Earth Peak male disciple whom he had also seen twice previously.

The number of the two Peaks' young disciples added up together did not even exceed the number of disciples — including Duan Ling Tian — that Wood Peak had.

Suddenly, a Wood Peak disciple exclaimed in a deep voice, "Fire Peak is here!"

The people present, apart from Duang Ling Tian and Qi Yu, immediately shifted their gazes to the five figures that were flying in their direction from the distance.

These five people were headed by one person. The person who

took the lead was an old man who was dressed in red. He was none other than Cha Bai, the Peak Master of Fire Peak.

Behind Cha Bai were another four Fire Peak disciples. Among these four disciples, Hu Fei was leading them as they followed closely behind Cha Bai.

'Since all of us are here, let us make our move!" Suddenly, before Yu Fang and Tian Gu could greet Cha Bai, a loud voice resonated from Gold Peak's direction. It instantly attracted everyone's attention.

Duan Ling Tian looked towards the voice and saw six figures making their way in the air from Gold Peak.

Among them was Guo Chong, the Peak Master of Gold Peak who was also the Sect Leader of the Five Element Sect, who was leading the group. Behind him were Nangong Chen and Nangong Yi who followed closely behind. One was full of energy while the other was calm and collected. Both had graceful bearings.

Behind the two of them were another three Gold Peak disciples. They were all young disciples who were around thirty-five years old. It was obvious that they were prepared to go to the Martial Emperor's secret treasure too.

"Sect Leader!"

The moment Guo Chong made his appearance, the people from the other four Peaks showed their respect. Some nodded their heads while some bowed.

Most of them bowed down in salutation, with the exception of the four Peak Masters and Duan Ling Tian who merely nodded their heads.

Duan Ling Tian who was standing among the Five Element Sect's disciples stood out like a sore thumb the moment all the other disciples bowed. If this was another person, Guo Chong would probably be slightly angered. However, when he discovered that

the person was Duan Ling Tian, his temper died down immediately.

In his opinion, it could already be considered a blessing to the Five Element Sect for Duan Ling Tian, who was a Variant, to temporarily join the sect. As for all the other unnecessary and elaborate formalities, Duan Ling Tian had the qualifications to ignore them.

"Let's go!" Guo Chong nodded his head towards the crowd and announced loudly.

The instance the words left his mouth, he led the five Gold Peak disciples and proceeded to fly towards the southwest direction. Due to the fact that he was watching out for the Gold Peak disciples, he deliberately slowed down his flying speed.

"Let's go!" This time, Qi Yu, Yu Fang, Tian Gu and Cha Bai called out to their young disciples one by one and caught up with Gold Peak's people. They followed closely behind like a shadow.

"That Martial Emperor's secret treasure is in the southwest?" As they flew all the way to the southwest, Duan Ling Tian could not help but narrow his eyes as he murmured, "The direction is between the southern and western district of the northern desert, but it's closer to the four major forces of the northern desert's southern district."

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Southern district of the northern desert, Ancient Desert City, Skywolf Fort.

Inside the fort, at an underground palace, five people stood before a high platform. They looked at the high platform before them that was shrouded in fog. The five people's eyes were gleaming brightly.

"It's going to be three hours soon," the only middle-aged man among the five of them spoke in a low voice. "The Profound Assimilation Formation is about to close, and the nine of them will come out soon." The eyes of one of the old men among the group of five lit up at immediately. With an eager look, he stared at the high platform that was shrouded in fog as if he was waiting for something.

Time continued to pass quietly.

"What's the matter?"

"It has already been four hours so why isn't the Profound Assimilation Formation shutting off? This is a little illogical!"

"Has something happened to the Profound Assimilation Formation?"

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The five people present at the scene stood gazing at one another. They were baffled and did not know what to do. Their faces were completely filled with bewilderment.

Chapter 919: Ghost Flame's Approach

The five people present were none other than the five Vice Fort Masters.

The five Vice Force Masters were led by Luo Fu, and the other four were Meng Li, Ning Can, Yu Kang and Feng Wei.

Feng Wei was Luo Fu's disciple. He was also the only one in his middle age among the five Vice Fort Masters. The other four were old men that were over seventy years old.

At this moment, all five of them had a glum look on their faces.

They had a clear understanding of the Profound Assimilation Formation. It could only run for three hours at the most, and it would automatically turn itself off after that. At that time, the individuals that were in the formation would come out, and the Concept that they had comprehended would improve more or less.

However, it had already been four hours currently, and the Profound Assimilation Formation did not show any signs of shutting down at all. It was as if something had gone wrong. Their hearts were heavy due to the current situation.

"Don't tell me something really happened inside?" Feng Wei's face was very gloomy.

"I don't think so... The Profound Assimilation Formation is an Inscription Formation that was personally drawn by a Martial Emperor powerhouse. By right, there shouldn't be any problems at all!" Luo Fu shook his head. His wise eyes were brimming with radiance when his gaze was trained on the high platform that was shrouded by fog. "I think something that we're not aware of is happening inside!"

Although Meng Li, Ning Can and Yu Kang did not speak a word at all, they were all staring at the Profound Assimilation Formation on the high platform with utmost concentration. A hint of worry

could be seen on their faces.

Compared to the five Vice Fort Masters' restlessness outside of the Profound Assimilation Formation, the inside was absolutely tranquil. Nine young talents were sitting cross-legged at different places while they quietly comprehended their Concepts.

Gusts of Concept that had substantialized rose from the surroundings of the nine young talents. They were either Wind, Fire, Water, Thunder or Earth Concepts. All five of these belonged to the Nature Concepts.

There was another person whose body was entangled with a sword-shaped energy. It was the Sword Concept's materialized form.

Eight of the young talents were sitting like a statue, there were no movements at all. Only one person could be seen sometimes frowning and sometimes relaxing.

It was a white-clad young man who looked like he was just slightly over thirty years old. Although his eyes were closed, his face was unusually cold. Especially the black flame mark in between his eyebrows that could instill chill in people the moment they laid their eyes on it!

At this moment, the black flame mark looked like it was alive as it burnt brightly!

"Elder Ghost, how did you do it?" A voice echoed from the depth of the white-clad young man's mind. A hint of surprise could be heard in the voice.

Inside the depth of the white-clad young man's mind, two orbs of vast Concept Energies that were similar to two clouds that were rolling constantly was situated near the solidified soul.

One of the Concept Energy was green while the other one was red. They were the Wind and Fire Concept respectively.

"Hurmph!" At the same time, a cold, hoarse and ancient voice

suddenly grunted in the white-clad young man's mind, "It's only a mere Inscription Formation that was laid out by a Martial Monarch Stage Inscription Master. Did you really think that it would be able to stop me, the Ghost Flame? Although the remnant of my soul is not as powerful as I was during my prime, it's still very easy for me to extract some Concept Energy from the Profound Assimilation Formation and force it into your body you know? If I'm still in my prime, it won't even be a problem for me to extract all the Concept Energy refined from the Wind and Fire Concept Fragments and insert them into your body, okay?!" Disdain could be heard in the hoarse and ancient voice as he said this.

From his words, it was as if he looked down on the Profound Assimilation Formation that the Martial Emperor had laid out.

"Yes, Yes! What a lousy Martial Emperor powerhouse. It's like trash compared to you, Elder Ghost!" Flattery was apparent in this voice.

Without any warning, the voice changed topic, "Elder Ghost, how high would the two waves of Concepts that you extracted be able to raise my Wind and Fire Concepts to?"

"The Void Transformation Concept!" The hoarse and old voice echoed again.

"V-Void Transformation C-Concept? Elder Ghost, you're not joking right?" The other voice was filled with surprise.

"Ever since you've coincidentally gotten your hands on the Devilseal Tablet fragment, when have I ever lied to you? The remnant of my soul lives in your body. " The hoarse and ancient voice sounded slightly angry.

"No, of course not! Elder Ghost, please don't be offended by the words I said. I was just thinking about how incredible this is! I'm just too excited!" The former voice was a bit alarmed.

"Hurmph!" The ancient voice snorted again before it continued, "Zi Shang, you lad! You must remember that the things that I can give you are much greater than your imagination! As long as you remember your promise to help me reconstruct my soul in the future, I'll definitely not treat you badly," the ancient voice echoed again.

"Yes, yes!" Zi Shang's voice hurriedly replied. He dared not slack at all.

"Alright, I'll pass the control of your body back to you now. You'll combine the two Concept Energies and your two Concepts on your own." After the hoarse and ancient voice finished his sentence, it immediately died down.

Meanwhile, Zi Shang sat cross-legged while the black mark between his brows disappeared without a trace. It was as if it was never there. The situation was very strange.

Zi Shang opened his eyes slowly, a sharp gleam flashed across his eyes as he muttered to himself in a cold voice, "Duan Ling Tian, when we meet again next, I'm going to give you a huge surprise! Even if Elder Ghost can't get rid of you on his own, I'm strong enough to destroy you! As long as I obtain the Devilseal Tablet from you, my future will definitely be very bright! Even the Martial Emperor powerhouses from the Cloud Continent will soon be squashed under my shoes!" As he spoke to himself, an evil grin slowly crept up on his face. It took a while before his laughter finally died down.

Zi Shang immediately closed his eyes again and proceeded to merge the two Concept Energies in the depth of his mind. A big flame rose up from around his body instantly. It brought gusts of blue winds with it. With the assistance from the wind, the fire raged and rose sharply.

Time passed by quietly.

Three days had gone by in just a blink of an eye.

"It has already been three days and the Profound Assimilation Formation is still not shutting down!" In the underground palace of the Skywolf Fort's inner fort, Ning Can kept pacing back and forth beside the high platform that was shrouded in fog. His face could not hide the worry he felt for his direct disciple, Zi Shang.

"Since we've already waited for three days, we might as well wait for a little longer," Luo Fu, who was standing by the side, suddenly piped up.

Although he said those words, there were still traces of concern in his eyes.

"Huh?" His brows furrowed suddenly as if he could sense something. When he looked at the Profound Assimilation Formation, he noticed that the high platform was still shrouded in fog.

The fog suddenly whirled and looked like it was about to converge.

"The Profound Assimilation Formation is about to shut down now?" Ning Can stopped pacing instantly.

The other three Skywolf Fort's Vice Fort Masters who were sitting cross-legged by the side as they cultivated also opened their eyes one by one. They stood up to watch the fog that continued to converge on the high platform together.

In just a short while, the fog dissipated, and the nine figures that were sitting cross-legged on the platform appeared in front of their eyes one by one.

Eight young men and one young woman.

If Duan Ling Tian was here, he would recognize that young girl in just a glance. That was none other than Ye Ling, the strongest powerhouse among the young talents in Darqing Dynasty whom he had met once in the Martial Competition of the Ten Dynasties.

After the Martial Competition had ended, Ye Ling continued to

stay in Skywolf Fort and received key training. Her current cultivation base was completely different to how it was before.

Soon, the nine people opened their eyes one after another and finally woke up.

Ning Can first took a look at the white-clad young man who was his direct disciple, Zi Shang, before he asked eagerly, "Zi Shang, how's the progress of your Wind Concept?"

"Master, Zi Shang did not disappoint you," Zi Shang smiled faintly. The energy beside him immediately whirled and continued to release waves of hot aura.

In just a blink of an eye, a big flame rose up and enveloped his entire body. It made him look like a majestic and fiery giant.

Whoosh!

Meanwhile, the Heaven and Earth Energy above the air whirled and gathered to form the Heaven and Earth Phenomenon.

Silhouettes of ancient horned dragons gradually solidified into form.

Ten.

Twenty.

Thirty.

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The number kept increasing.

Under the astounded gaze of the crowd, the ancient horned dragons finally stopped increasing and stopped at one number.

"I-It's the strength of 200 ancient horned dragons!" Luo Fu gasped and exclaimed. He was dumbfounded. "The First Level Advance Fire Concept! Zi Shang, y-you've actually comprehended the Void Transformation?"

The Void Transformation Concept!

The other eight young disciples of the Skywolf Fort immediately stood still as they stared at the 200 silhouettes of the ancient horned dragons in dismay. They were alarmed, and they were not able to recover from their shock for a long time.

"Z-Zi Shang, y-your Fire Concept was only at the Void Initiation before you entered the Profound Assimilation Formation right?" Ning Can asked absent-mindedly.

The Void Initiation Concept?

The moment the words left his mouth, the other four Vice Fort Masters was alarmed as well.

It was only at the Void Initiation Concept before he entered the Profound Assimilation Formation, but it was raised to the Void Transformation Concept the moment he stepped out of it?

Did he skip the Void Interpretation Concept?

"Yes," Zi Shang nodded. When he saw the dumbfounded expression on their faces and the look of horror in their eyes, he felt a burst of pleasure in his heart. He enjoyed this feeling a lot.

In the next moment, his heart jolted as a flurry of green hurricane suddenly solidified around his body and merged with the burning flame.

The flame instantly soared and rose up higher than before.

At the same time, another 400 silhouettes of ancient horned dragons appeared in the sky above his head followed by the addition of another 100 ancient horned dragons.

"The strength of 400 ancient horned dragons... T-Third Level Advance Wind Concept?"

"T-That strength of 100 ancient horned dragons is the power that was raised after he fueled the First Level Advance Fire Concept with his Wind Concept? Something like the Earth Concept borrowing the Earth Energy?"

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Chapter 920: Feng Tian Wu's Elevation

The five Vice Fort Masters of Skywolf Fort stared in shock at the 700 silhouettes of ancient horned dragons that were above Zi Shang's head. Shock was the only emotion that they could feel at the moment.

The Third Level Advance Wind Concept was equal to the strength of 400 ancient horned dragons!

The First Level Advance Fire Concept was equal to the strength of 200 ancient horned dragons!

Moreover, he also had the strength of another 100 ancient horned dragons after he fueled the Fire Concept with the Wind Concept.

It came up to the strength of 700 ancient horned dragons after it was all added together!

The eight Skywolf Fort's disciples who were present were gaping. They did not recover their senses for a long period of time.

After a while, one Skywolf Fort's disciple finally managed to regain his senses. He could not help but swallow hard before he murmured, "Didn't the Vice Fort Masters tell us that after entering the Profound Assimilation Fort, the lower levels of the Void Interpretation Concept could rise two to three levels, but the high levels could only rise one or two levels?" As his speech reached this point, he turned to look at Zi Shang before he continued, "B-But he..."

"Perhaps something went wrong with the Profound Assimilation Formation. I feel like I've been inside for more than three hours so maybe our progress is as huge as Zi Shang as well," another Skywolf Fort's disciple hastily adjusted his Concept while he was speaking, "Before I entered the Profound Assimilation Formation, I've comprehended the Fifth Level Intermediate Thunder Concept. If nothing went wrong, I should be able to reach the Void

Transformation Concept too!"

Everybody, including Zi Shang, immediately shifted their attention to the space above this Skywolf Fort's disciple. His Heaven and Earth Energy was whirling and brewing above him as it gradually formed the Heaven and Earth Phenomenon.

A sneer could be seen on the corner of Zi Shang's mouth.

Could this garbage be compared to him?

In just a short while, silhouettes of ancient horned dragons began to appear above the Skywolf Fort's disciple. The number continued to increase before it finally stopped at 80.

The strength of 80 ancient horned dragons that represented the Seventh Level Void Interpretation Concept.

"Seventh Level Intermediate Thunder Concept? How's that possible?!" When he saw the 80 silhouettes of the ancient horned dragon above himself, the Skywolf Fort's disciple turned glum instantly. "This is far too different from Zi Shang's!"

At this moment, the remaining Skywolf Fort's disciples, including Ye Ling, proceeded to test and display their Concepts one by one.

In the end, they realized that among them, the biggest elevation was only an increase of three [1 levels. One of the Skywolf Fort's disciple's Fourth Level Void Interpretation Concept managed to rise to the Sixth Level Void Interpretation Concept.

Each and every gaze instantly fell on Zi Shang. All of them had an astonished and perplexed look. A proud smile could be seen on Zi Shang's face. He really enjoyed this kind of feeling very much.

'Unfortunately, my cultivation base is still a little bit far behind... I hope that I'll be able to make a breakthrough to the Seventh Void Interpretation when I enter the Martial Emperor's secret treasure!' Zi Shang thought to himself.

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Blade Sect.

As one of the four major forces in the southern district of the northern desert, Blade Sect was located in two adjacent vast valleys.

One of the two valleys were named Saber Valley. It was where the Saber Sect was located. The other was named Sword Valley, where the Sword Sect was located.

In between the Saber and Sword Valleys, there was a hill that housed a succession of architectural complex. This complex was where the senior officials of Blade Sect usually stay and cultivate.

In the palace on the hill, five people were standing before a high platform at the moment. The high platform was shrouded in fog.

Among the five of them, two were old men while the other three were middle-aged men.

If Duan Ling Tian was here, he would be able to recognize the three middle-aged men with just a glance. They were none other than Sword 13, the Vice Sect Master of Sword Sect, Saber 5, the Vice Sect Master of Saber Sect, and Feng Wu Dao, the elder of Sword Sect from Blade Sect.

However, Feng Wu Dao was staring fixedly at the fog of the high platform with a glum look on his face at the moment. He was a little nervous.

"Sect Masters," Feng Wu Dao could not help but look at the two elderly man and said with a look of dismay, "The Profound Assimilation Formation really will not harm a Fire Spirit Body?"

"By right it won't. Moreover, there has never been a case where an incident happened after the Fire Spirit Body entered the Profound Assimilation Formation," one of the tall and sturdy old men shook his head. "Don't worry. Since Tian Wu that little girl has an innate spirit body, she'll only benefit from the Profound Assimilation Formation that's filled with Concept Energy. No harm will come to her at all," another thin old man said.

The two old men were the two Sect Leaders of Blade Sect. One ruled Saber Sect while the other ruled Sword Sect.

"Unfortunately, Tian Wu that little girl can't consume any spirit fruit. Otherwise, she would have quite an accomplishment when she enters the Martial Emperor's secret treasure with the Fire Concept she comprehends and her shocking strength!" Sword 13 let out a sigh.

The moment Feng Wu Dao and the two old men heard this, they became quiet as well.

Feng Tian Wu had a remarkable comprehension in the Fire Concept, but her cultivation base was still only at the Third Level Void Interpretation. It was much more inferior compared to many other Blade Sect's disciples.

If it wasn't for her remarkable Fire Concept, she would not even be qualified to enter the Profound Assimilation Formation and enjoy the baptism of the several hundred Concept Fragments.

"It's going to be three hours soon." Blade 5 stood at the side, his eyes lit up immediately. He had an eager expression on his face as he looked at the Profound Assimilation Formation before him that was shrouded on the high platform.

Upon hearing Blade 5's words, the other four people immediately shifted their gazes towards the Profound Assimilation Formation.

A moment later, the fog on the high platform converged and revealed its true state.

Ten young men and women were sitting cross-legged in various parts of the platform. After a while, they finally woke up one by one.

"Wu'er!" When Feng Wu Dao saw a figure that was slowly rising, a relieved and happy smile crept up on his face. The heart that was lifted high could finally be put down.

"Father." Upon hearing the voice, she looked at Feng Wu Dao as a smile appeared on that delicate face that was so beautiful that it could topple the world, "I'm sorry for worrying you."

"It's alright as long as you're unharmed," Feng Wu Dao shook his head.

At this moment, the Heaven and Earth Energy in the sky swirled, and the sky started to change.

All the other nine Blade Sect's disciples, including Su Li, Long Yun, and Zhang Shou Yong, demonstrated their Concepts one after another. They mobilized their Heaven and Earth Energy and formed the Heaven and Earth Phenomenon.

Their Concepts were more or less elevated by two to three levels.

"Tian Wu, let us see how many levels your Fire Concept had risen up to?" The thin old man looked at Feng Tian Wu kindly.

"Yes, Sect Master." Upon hearing the Sect Master of Sword Sect's words, Feng Tian Wu did not waste any time. The red robe on her body suddenly billowed. It resembled fire that was burning with great intensity.

"Su Li, you're really not interested in this Feng Tian Wu at all? If you're not interested, your Senior Brother, I, will go ahead and court her!" The green-clad young man standing beside Su Li was staring at Feng Tian Wu with a great burning desire in his eyes. He was itching to make her his.

"Senior Brother Lian, I've told you before. Tian Wu already has somebody she likes." Su Li frowned as he continued, "And that person is somebody that you can't afford to offend!"

"The one that you're speaking of is that guy who originally followed you here to our Blade Sect, yet halfway through the journey, he got hunted down by the Skywolf Fort people until he went missing? That Duan Ling Tian you mean?" The green-clad young man laughed in disdain, "Let alone the fact that he might already be dead, I'm not afraid of him even if he's still alive! The First Place in the Martial Competition of the Ten Dynasties? Come on! That kind of rubbish Martial Competition is not even worth mentioning okay?!"

Upon hearing the green-clad young man cursing Duan Ling Tian, Su Li's face darkened at once. His eyes gleamed coldly, and his fists were clenched tightly. However, he did not make any movements at all.

Putting aside the fact that this green-clad young man had quite a reputable identity, just his strength alone far exceeded his own strength.

A cultivation base at the Eighth Level Void Interpretation and a comprehension of the Ninth Level Sword Concept was not something that he could compare to.

At this moment, nobody heard a word of the exchange between Su Li and that green-clad young man because everyone's attention was fixed upon Feng Tian Wu.

Swoosh!

Meanwhile, waves of hot air swept out from around Feng Tian Wu's body. It set off flurries of hot hurricanes that blew in all directions.

Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh!

• • •

The raging hurricanes that brought about hot air made several Blade Sect's disciples, whose cultivation base was much lower, turn pale immediately.

Under the watchful eyes of the others, Feng Tian Wu was completely covered in flames that soared up to the sky. It served as a foil to the red long robe on her body and made her look like a fire elf.

Whoosh!

The Heaven and Earth Energy swirled in the air followed by the emergence of the Heaven and Earth Phenomenon.

In a few moments, 100 silhouettes of ancient horned dragons appeared.

"N-Ninth Level Intermediate Fire Concept?" When everyone saw the 100 silhouettes of ancient horned dragons above her, they immediately became terrified. Their eyes were filled with disbelief.

They regained their senses quickly as horror dawned on their faces.

They regained their senses so quickly because after the emergence of the 100 silhouettes of ancient horned dragons, another 100 silhouettes of ancient horned dragons appeared again in the sky as the flames continued to soar from Feng Tian Wu's body.

200 silhouettes of ancient horned dragons appeared before everyone.

"First Level Advance Fire Concept!" Everyone, including the two Sect Leaders of Saber and Sword Sects, could not help but narrow their eyes instantly. Their faces were filled with bewilderment.

Before Feng Tian Wu entered the Profound Assimilation Formation, she seemed to have only comprehended the Fifth Level Intermediate Fire Concept.

However, after she came out from the Profound Assimilation Formation, she had already comprehended the First Level Advance Fire Concept?

When they saw the 200 silhouettes of ancient horned dragons became 300 silhouettes of ancient horned dragons a moment later,

everyone turned numb as they stared at the scene before their eyes with their mouths agape.

"S-Second Level Advance Fire Concept?!" Su Li gasped.

"N-No... It's not only Second Level Advance Fire Concept! The number of ancient horned dragons is still increasing!" Zhang Shou Yong muttered. His eyes were as big as saucers.

Indeed, the number of ancient horned dragons above Feng Tian Wu's head was still increasing. The 300 silhouettes of ancient horned dragons soon became 400 silhouettes of ancient horned dragons. Immediately afterward, it became 500 silhouettes of ancient horned dragons.

— and it was still increasing.

Everyone had gone completely numb without realizing it.

"I-Is this the Fire Spirit Body? Don't tell me she absorbed all of the Concept Energy from the Fire Concept Fragments that the Profound Assimilation Formation managed to refine?" Sword 13 was flabbergasted as he murmured to himself.

Chapter 921: Supreme Emotion Forsaking Technique

Emotion Severing Sect.

A blue-clad young man was sitting in a secluded courtyard. Waves of turquoise ripples were swirling around his body.

It was the Water Concept.

In the sky, 200 silhouettes of ancient horned dragons descended as they whirled. They quietly waited and was poised to attack at any time.

The green-clad young man sitting there did not use the slightest amount of his Origin Energy at all. In other words, his Water Concept alone managed to urge the Heaven and Earth Energy to gather 200 silhouettes of ancient horned dragons. It was obvious that he had comprehended the First Level Advance Water Concept!

Time passed by quietly.

After God-knows how long, the wave of turquoise ripples around the green-clad young man suddenly churned and emitted waves of water mist. It spread out like a gentle breeze caressing the rain.

Water droplets scattered from the mist and sprinkled the plants planted in the garden, giving them a strong breath of life.

All of a sudden, the blue-clad young man who was engulfed in the turquoise ripples opened his eyes. A bright gleam flashed across his eyes as he muttered under his breath, "Supreme Emotion Forsaking Technique. As water reaches its acme, it condenses into ice!"

Almost immediately after his words left his mouth, the turquoise ripples by his body emitted a bone-chilling icy aura until there was no mist left. Not long after, the waves of turquoise ripples condensed and formed a layer of thick ice.

The thick ice enveloped the blue-clad young man's entire body. However, he did not seem to have noticed anything. His face still remained aloof as he continued to mumble the incantations without pause.

Whoosh!

Suddenly, a tall figure appeared in the sky out of thin air. It was an expressionless middle-aged man.

"I can't believe he has mastered the Supreme Emotion Forsaking Technique. It's the ultimate cultivation method that has been passed down for several thousands of years in the Emotion Severing Sect, and nobody had been able to master it. When water reaches its acme, it'll condense into ice. When ice reaches its acme, it'll breed fire, and when fire reaches its acme, it'll converge and become thunder," the middle-aged man murmured to himself. "With his current progress, I'm sure he'll be able to successfully breed the Fire Concept with the Ice Concept in no time. At that time, he'll be able to simultaneously cast the Ice and Fire Concepts. When Ice and Fire unify, its power will multiply as well!"

"Huh?" As if he was hit by some sort of realization, there was a slight change in the middle-aged man's expression.

Whoosh!

When he lowered his head, he saw intense flames had erupted out of the thick layer of solid ice that was enveloping the young man and rose up to the sky.

Despite the hot air that the blazing flame emitted, it did not melt the extremely cold ice. Similarly, the extremely cold ice did not extinguish the flame either. It looked extremely strange to the eyes.

The harmonious existence between the two elements seemed to be completely contrary to the principle of 'water extinguishing fire'.

Whoosh!

At this moment, 200 silhouettes of ancient horned dragons above the young man's head suddenly shifted to the side, and another 200 silhouettes of ancient horned dragons immediately appeared.

Suddenly.

BOOM!

The young man's legs slammed on the ground. The thick bricks on the ground cracked and fissures began to spread out in all directions. It looked like a huge spider-web.

There was a sudden burst of coldness that emitted a hot wave in this huge spider-web. This contradictory combination caused the plants in the small courtyard to immediately lose their vitality.

Swish!

The moment the young man leaped on the ground, he used his force and soared up into the sky. He rushed into the air like a flash of lightning.

"Supreme Emotion Forsaking Technique... The Union of Ice and Flame!" The young man hovered in the air and muttered under his breath. The moment he reached the end of his muttering, he shouted without warning.

The moment he shouted, the Ice and Flame on his body strangely merged into one and formed a new bluish flame that was crystal clear and beautiful.

It was like an icy flame that was burning intensely.

Waves of extreme coldness and heat radiated from the icy flame. The contradictory combination caused the Heaven and Earth Energy in the sky to whirl once again.

Wham!

Without any warning, the young man took a stride forward, and his fist punched out to the sky like a cannonball that was swiftly shot out.

Blue flames rushed out from his fist as it formed a shock wave that swept and tore through the sky. It set off a series of deafening explosions.

Waves and waves of air that was a mixture of coldness and heat swept spread all over the place. Next to the 400 silhouettes of ancient horned dragons on top of his head, another 200 silhouettes of ancient horned dragons appeared without any prior warning.

From the beginning until the end, he did not use his Origin Energy at all.

In other words, this strength of 200 ancient horned dragons did not come from his Origin Energy at all.

"Not bad! Although your Union of Ice and Flame is still at the Rudiment Stage, it's enough to multiply your strength by half. When you managed to reach a higher stage and cultivate it to the Mastery Stage, it'll be able to multiply your strength by two times!" The cold-looking middle-aged man suddenly appeared before the young man. A smile that rarely appeared on his face was playing at the corner of his mouth.

If Duan Ling Tian was here at this moment, he would be able to identify the middle-aged man as Pei An, the Sect Master of the Emotion Severing Sect, with just a glance.

As for the young man, he was Zhang Yang, the Flame Young Master.

The Supreme Emotion Forsaking Technique was the cultivation method inherited from the Emotion Severing Sect since the ancient time. It was said that it was regarded as a first-rate cultivation method in the entire Cloud Continent.

However, no one in the Emotion Severing Sect had successfully cultivated it all this time.

Other than having to severe one's emotional ties completely,

cultivating the Supreme Emotion Forsaking Technique would require the person to comprehend the Water Concept to a certain level as well.

When water reaches its acme, it would condense into ice.

When ice reaches its acme, it would breed fire.

When fire reaches its acme, it would converge and become thunder.

These short thirty words were exactly the outline of the Supreme Emotion Forsaking Technique.

For those who cultivated the Supreme Emotion Forsaking Technique, once they managed to successfully condense ice from water and comprehend the Ice Concept, they would be able to rely on the Ice Concept to breed the Fire Concept that emerged the moment the Ice Concept reached its acme. Moreover, they would not have to cultivate the Fire Concept. When the Ice Concept made progress, the Fire Concept would simultaneously progress as well.

This was because it originated from the Ice Concept.

The same theory applied to the Thunder Concept that would come later as well.

The fact that it was considered as a first-rate cultivation method in the entire Cloud Continent naturally meant that the Supreme Emotion Forsaking Technique's powerful nature was not only limited to this.

Anyone who had successfully cultivated the Supreme Emotion Forsaking Technique would also be able to master another peculiar technique. It was called the Union of Ice and fire!

The Union of Ice and Fire was separated into two stages — the Rudiment and the Mastery Stages.

Compared to the other cumbersome martial skills, it was definitely much simpler.

The Rudiment Stage allowed one's Ice and Fire Concept to merge. Not only could it combine the power of the two, it could also multiply the power by half.

Similar to Zhang Yan earlier.

Through the Supreme Emotion Forsaking Technique, his First Level Advance Water Concept was transformed into the First Level Advance Ice Concept. It was equivalent to the strength of 200 ancient horned dragons. The Fire Concept that was bred out of this was at the same level as well — the First Level Advance Fire Concept — with a strength that was also equivalent to 200 ancient horned dragons. The two of them added up together was equal to the strength of 400 ancient horned dragons.

With the help from the Union of Ice and Fire, the strength would multiply by half-fold, which was equivalent to 200 ancient horned dragons.

When he managed to cultivate his Union of Ice and Fire to the Mastery Level, his base strength would multiply by twofold and would have the strength of 400 ancient horned dragons.

The stronger the Ice Concept was, the stronger the Fire Concept would be. The strength of the Union of Ice and Fire would be more powerful too!

Other than that, the Union of Ice and Fire could only be regarded as a combination of the Ice and Fire Concepts that could be executed together. It had no conflicts at all with one's martial skills. For this reason, it was possible to cast some martial skills on top of the Union of Ice and Fire.

As a result, the strength would increase too.

"Master!" The moment Zhang Yan saw him, he hastily bowed as a salutation and dared not slack at all.

"Get ready. We'll depart tomorrow for the Martial Emperor's secret treasure." Pei An nodded his head. The instance he finished

his words, he vanished without a trace again before Zhang Yan's eyes.

After Pei An had left, a brilliant gleam flashed across Zhang Yan's eyes as he murmured to himself, "With my cultivation base at the Seventh Level Void Interpretation, plus the Union of Ice and Fire that was created out of the fusion of Ice and Fire Concepts, I possess the strength of 700 ancient horned dragons without a spirit weapon! If everything goes smoothly, the other young powerhouses from the other sects will not be a match for me!" His eyes shone with confidence when he finished his sentence.

Since he joined the Emotion Severing Sect and demonstrated his innate skill and comprehension, his consumption of spirit fruits did not cease at all. For this reason, there was no more spirit fruit that was suitable for him to consume after he made a breakthrough to the Sixth Level Void Interpretation.

Due to the abundance of spirit fruits in the Emotion Severing Sect, he had consumed all of them previously so he was already completely immune to the medicinal efficacy of the fruits. For this reason, since the Martial Competition of the Ten Dynasties, he only managed to make a breakthrough to the Seventh Level Void Interpretation due to lack of suitable spirit fruits that he could consume.

"Duan Ling Tian just left the Darkhan Dynasty... Before this, he did not consume any spirit fruit that was exclusively for a Void Interpretation martial artist. However, since he went to Blade Sect, he would have no shortage of spirit fruits at all. I'm sure his current cultivation base must be higher than mine!" As a familiar purple figure emerged in his mind, a rare and faint smile crept up to the corner of his mouth.

"However, even if his cultivation base is higher than mine, and his Concept is raised with the help of the Profound Assimilation Formation, his strength will not be as good as mine since I cultivated the Supreme Emotion Forsaking Technique successfully! Only Zi Shang might pose a threat to me!" The moment he recalled Zi Shang, a hint of dread could be seen in between his brows. He still could not help but shudder when he thought about the Secret Technique that Zi Shang demonstrated previously.

Second Level Void Interpretation. After he had cast his Secret Technique, his cultivation base immediately soared up to the Sixth Level Void Interpretation.

It was fortunate that Zi Shang's Concepts did not rise together as well. Otherwise, most of the young powerhouses from the other sects that would enter the Martial Emperor's secret treasure this time, including himself, would most likely not be a match for Zi Shang.

Chapter 922: For the Sake of Profundity Fragment!

Northern desert, the southwest region.

Swoosh! Swoosh! Swoosh! Swoosh!

...

Figures flew from the northeast with an extremely fast speed. They passed through the clouds in the sky and left a visible 'sky road'.

A group of people was led by three middle-aged men, an old man, and a middle-aged woman with twenty people following closely behind. All twenty of them were young men and women. None of them was over forty years old.

"We're arriving soon." The middle-aged man who was leading the group was none other than Guo Chong, the Sect Leader of Five Element Sect. When he withdrew his gaze from afar, he also began to slow down his speed.

The rest of the people immediately slowed down as well.

"We've arrived?" The twenty young people behind him were stunned.

"It has already been more than a month since the day of our departure. We'll be arriving at our destination soon!" Guo Chong's voice was transmitted to all of their ears.

"We're really arriving soon?" Duan Ling Tian was following behind as he slowed down his speed as well. The instance he heard Guo Chong's words, his eyes lit up.

Huang Daniu looked at Duan Ling Tian as he spoke to Duan Ling Tian through Voice Transmission, "Duan Ling Tian, we'll arrive at the Martial Emperor's secret treasure soon. At that time, you and I will join forces and there's no need for us to worry about not being

able to get the treasures that were left behind by the Martial Emperor!"

Duan Ling Tian was rendered speechless by Huang Daniu's brazenness.

'Do I really need to join forces with the others? Even if I really want to join forces with the others, I'll never choose this guy. Nangong Chen from Gold Peak is more suitable okay?!'

Nangong Chen's current cultivation base must have already broken through to the Ninth Level Void Interpretation. Similar to his First Level Advance Earth Concept, his strength was extremely strong as well. Duan Ling Tian was the only person he was second to among the younger generation in the Five Element Sect.

Duan Ling Tian had no doubts that Nangong Chen could make a breakthrough to the Ninth Level Void Interpretation. After all, the two spirit fruits that he had consumed previously were issued by the Five Element Sect in a unified manner.

Wood Peak received four while Gold Peak received three. Out of the three that Gold Peak received, at least two must have been given to Nangong Chen.

"Throughout this journey, I'm sure all of you must have been curious about the destination. I'm going to tell you about it now," Guo Chong's voice continued to resonate. The group of Five Element Sect's disciples' eyes lit up immediately, apart from Duan Ling Tian and Huang Daniu. Even Nangong Chen was not an exception.

The moment Duan Ling Tian heard this, he lifted his brows at once. He knew that Guo Chong was going to tell them about the Martial Emperor's secret treasure.

"The place that we're heading to this time is the secret treasure that the Martial Emperor left behind!" Guo Chong's words entered their ears clearly. Other than the four Peak Masters, Duan Ling Tian and Huang Daniu who looked very calm, the rest of the Five Element Sect's disciples were stunned for a moment before chaos broke out among them.

"Secret treasure that was left behind by a Martial Emperor?"

"My goodness! I wonder how many treasures are contained in the Martial Emperor's secret treasure! It must have all sorts of things like the Ninth Level Concept Fragments, grade one spirit weapon, or grade one medicinal pill right?"

"I knew it! I knew it certainly won't be for some trivial matter that the Sect Leader and the four Peak Masters personally took us out this time! It's just that it did not cross my mind that the Sect Leader and the four Peak Masters would bring us to the Martial Emperor's secret treasure"

. . .

The group of young Five Element Sect's disciples discussed animatedly. Their faces were filled with excitement.

Even the Nangong twins were not an exception.

Nangong Yi looked eager, and his eyes were shining brilliantly. Nangong Chen, on the other hand, still had a cold and aloof look on his face, but his eyes that were gleaming brightly undoubtedly betrayed his mood at the moment.

"According to the news that I received, the Martial Emperor's secret treasure was left behind when he was close to his death. All of his inheritance is inside, and they're waiting for the right person from the future to take them!" When Guo Chong was announcing this, his tone became slightly higher than usual.

How could the inheritance that was left behind by a Martial Emperor be something ordinary?

Even he who held the Sect Master position in the Five Element Sect could not contain his excitement. "Inheritance?" The moment Duan Ling Tian heard this, his heart gave a sudden jolt.

Although he already knew beforehand that they were going to the Martial Emperor's secret treasure, he thought that it was merely some games that were created by a Martial Emperor when he was feeling bored.

However, it looked like this was not the case at all.

Without a doubt, it did not matter if it was a game or inheritance that was left behind by a Martial Emperor. They would both contain some items that people would fight to the death over. However, it was obvious the latter would contain a much valuable treasure.

This was because the latter might contain the wealth that had been accumulated by the Martial Emperor during his entire life. It was enough to make any force, or anyone, in the Cloud Continent to turn green over it.

"I'm really getting more and more excited about it!" Duan Ling Tian's eyes shone brightly as he muttered to himself.

At the same time, after they heard Guo Chong's words, the group of young Five Element Sect's disciples' breath began to quicken.

The inheritance from a Martial Emperor?

What did that mean?

"The inheritance that was left behind by a Martial Emperor is all of the wealth accumulated by him during his life. Whoever obtains it would definitely soar up to the sky!"

"I can't wait to go now!"

"However, since it's the inheritance left by a Martial Emperor, why did the five Peak Masters bring us along with them? Wouldn't it be better if they bring the sect elders with them to take the treasures?"

"Could it be that there's some reason behind it?"

• • •

The group of Five Element Sect disciples buried their heads together in a heated discussion. Eventually, one by one they slowly looked towards Guo Chong, the Sect Leader of the Five Element Sect, and the other four Peak Masters with a questioning look on their faces.

"This time, the Martial Emperor's secret treasure that we're headed to is filled with all sorts of tests that were left behind by the Martial Emperor. We'll have to enter the secret treasure ourselves to search for them if we want to get the treasures that were left behind!" Naturally, Guo Chong heard the discussions of the Five Element Sect's disciples. Slowly, he continued to explain, "We brought all of you here because the gate of that place is covered with an Inscription Formation! That Inscription Formation only allows those who are below forty to enter the place. If we force our way in, the Martial Emperor's secret treasure will collapse immediately. Now, do you understand the reason why I brought all of you here?"

Guo Chong's words entered the ears of the Five Element Sect's disciples.

Other than Duan Ling Tian and Huang Daniu who were already prepared, the other eighteen people could not help but be taken aback.

However, they grasped the situation completely after listening to Guo Chong's explanation.

It was not because the Sect Leader and the four Peak Masters refused to bring the sect elders with them. It was because none of the sect senior officials, including themselves, were able to enter the Martial Emperor's secret treasure.

Only young people below the age of forty like them could enter

the Martial Emperor's secret treasure.

"Furthermore, the Five Element Sect is not the only one who knows about the Martial Emperor's secret treasure. As far as I know, the four major forces in the southern district of the northern desert also know about the existence of the Martial Emperor's secret treasure. When the Martial Emperor's secret treasure opens its gate, they'll definitely bring the best young disciples they have as well." When Guo Chong announced this, his face turned glum immediately.

"In other words, apart from the twenty of you who'll enter the Martial Emperor's secret treasure, the best young disciples from the four major forces in the southern district of the northern desert will enter with all of you as well. As for what's going to happen inside, I'm sure you can guess it already. For this reason, all of you must be mentally prepared for it," Guo Chong finished in one breath.

"What?!"

"The four major forces of the northern desert also know about the existence of the Martial Emperor's secret treasure?"

"Oh, Lord! If the young disciples of the four major forces enter with us, we might not be able to hold on to the treasure even if we managed to find it!"

"The four major forces are in no way inferior to our Five Element Sect! It seems like going into the Martial Emperor's secret treasure is going to be a perilous journey!"

• • •

Other than Duan Ling Tian and Huang Daniu who were already well prepared, the group of Five Element Sect's disciples was astonished. Judging from their words, it was clear that some of them were filled with dread.

Naturally, there were also some whose eyes shone brilliantly like

Nangong Chen and Nangong Yi.

The moment they heard that other young powerhouses from other forces would be entering the Martial Emperor's secret treasure too, a strong battle intention began to radiate from their bodies unconsciously.

Apart from the twins, Hu Fei, Tan Huang, and Tian Zhen's eyes were all filled with anticipation as well.

"Naturally, the sect won't force you if you don't want to go in. However, before you make any decision, I still want to talk to all of you on behalf of the sect." When he reached this point, Guo Chong paused for a while before continuing, "Among all of the things hidden inside the Martial Emperor's secret treasure, the sect's only interested in the Profundity Fragments. As for the remaining things like Ninth Level Concept Fragments or Grade One Spirit Weapon... Well, finders keepers. The sects will not seize it from you by force."

The Profundity Fragment!

The moment the words left Guo Chong's mouth, other than Duan Ling Tian, the other nineteen Five Element Sect's disciples, including Huang Daniu, narrowed their eyes immediately.

Naturally, they all knew fairly well what the Profundity Fragment meant.

If the Five Element Sect could get their hands on the Profundity Fragment, even only one piece was enough to give birth to a Martial Emperor!

— and, right now, the Martial Emperor's secret treasure that they were about to enter actually contained the Profundity Fragment?

All of them came around after giving it some thoughts.

After all, that was a place that contained the inheritance of a Martial Emperor during the course of his entire life. There must be no shortage of Profundity Fragments in the wealth accumulated during his entire lifetime.

"Whoever obtains the Profundity Fragment will become a great benefactor of our sect! In the future, the sect will fulfill and never refuse the request of the disciple who turns in the Profundity Fragment as long as it's within the sect's ability." Guo Chong said with a solemn look as he reached the end of the sentence, "However, if you don't turn in the Profundity Fragments and we find it after we perform a search on you, you won't get the benefits anymore!"

Guo Chong's tone became harsher than before as he said, "Whichever Five Element Sect's disciple who comes out of the Martial Emperor's secret treasure will have to hand in their Spatial Ring and let us have a thorough search! Once we've confirmed that you don't have the Profundity Fragment on you, we'll return the Spatial Ring to you. As for the other treasures, the sect will not lay a finger on it at all. Don't even think about hiding the Spatial Ring from us. You should know that Peak Master Tian Gu is an Inscription Master, and when he expands his Spiritual Energy, he'll be able to find out where you hide it even if you swallow the ring into your stomach!"

Chapter 923: Arousing the Enthusiasm

Guo Chong's words completely discouraged some of the Five Element Sect's disciples from trying to hide the Profundity Fragment after they found it. If their Spatial Ring would be searched as well, it would definitely be impossible to hide the Profundity Fragment.

'Search the Spatial Ring?' Upon hearing Guo Chong's words, Duan Ling Tian frowned a little.

Unlike the other Five Element Sect's disciples, he had already possessed three Profundity Fragments even before he entered the Martial Emperor's secret treasure. They were obtained from the Sword Monarch's Treasure before this.

He could still accept it if the Profundity Fragments that he found in the Martial Emperor's secret treasure were taken away. However, if the three Profundity Fragments that he originally possessed got taken away, who should he lodge a complaint to?

"Sect Leader," Duan Ling Tian looked at Guo Chong and spoke up immediately.

"Yes?" Guo Chong stared at Duan Ling Tian with a puzzled look. The stern look on his face had vanished without a trace. Instead, it was replaced with a smile as he asked, "Anything?"

In his opinion, among all of the young Five Element Sect's disciples who would be entering the Martial Emperor's secret treasure, the person who possessed the greatest strength was none other than Duan Ling Tian. He had pinned most of his hopes on Duan Ling Tian this time.

For this reason, he did not put on the air of a sect leader in front of Duan Ling Tian.

"What if we managed to get two or more Profundity Fragments in the Martial Emperor's secret treasure? Do we really have to hand in every piece to the sect as well?" Duan Ling Tian looked Guo Chong in the eyes and casually asked. "Not only would the Profundity Fragment allows the sect to give birth to a Martial Emperor, it would also help us enter the Martial Monarch Stage if we can keep one for ourselves!" Duan Ling Tian's eyes shone brightly as he said this.

The moment the words left his mouth, all the other nineteen Five Element Sect's disciples immediately shifted their attention towards Guo Chong in unison. It was apparent that they were curious about this as well.

After all, Duan Ling Tian's words resonated with their thoughts.

Of course! The Profundity Fragment would help the sect give birth to a Martial Emperor, and it would also help them enter the Martial Monarch Stage in the future and become a Martial Emperor themselves.

"T-This..." Upon hearing Duan Ling Tian's words, Guo Chong became hesitant immediately.

"Sect Leader, if the sect really wants us to hand in all of the Profundity Fragments that we obtain, I'm afraid not many of us will be interested in fighting for the Profundity Fragments inside the Martial Emperor's secret treasure!" Duan Ling Tian continued to add on, "After all, what use is there for us to fight till our very last breath for something that doesn't belong to us? What use is there for us to take as many as possible?"

"Hurmph!" The moment these words left his mouth, Cha Bai, the Peak Master of Fire Peak, who was standing by the side, snorted, "What do you mean by 'what use is there for us to fight until our very last breath for something that doesn't belong to us' and 'what use is there for us to take as many as possible'? Don't you forget that you're all the disciples of the Five Element Sect! The sect trained and fostered all of you. Now that the sect needs you, don't you think you should devote yourself entirely to your last breath

for the sake of the sect?"

As he was speaking, Cha Bai swept a glance at the Five Element Sect's disciples, including Duan Ling Tian.

"Peak Master Cha Bai, you're speaking with such a strong sense of awe-inspiring righteousness. Does this mean that you'll be willing to put your life at stake to fight for those Profundity Fragments that will eventually be handed to the sect if you're the one entering the Martial Emperor's secret treasure?" Duan Ling Tian narrowed his eyes as he stared directly at him.

"Of course!" Cha Bai replied as a matter of course, putting on an air that was saying 'I'm willing to sacrifice everything for the sake of the sect!'

"In that case, do you dare to swear by the Nine-Nine Heavenly Tribulation, Peak Master Cha Bai? Swear that if the words that you just said did not come from the bottom of your heart, you're willing to be killed in a strike by the Nine-Nine Heavenly Tribulation!" A ridiculing smile crept up on the corner of Duan Ling Tian's mouth.

"You..." Cha Bai's face turned pale at once. He did not expect Duan Ling Tian to bring up the Nine-Nine Heavenly Tribulation into the conversation again.

However, did he really dare to swear by the Nine-Nine Heavenly Tribulation?

Of course not!

"Looks like the words that you just spoke were uttered against your conscience, Peak Master Cha Bai?" Duan Ling Tian stared deeply at Cha Bai and mocked him with a sneer.

Many of the Five Element Sect's disciples immediately cast a mocking glance at Cha Bai while some even snorted.

"We're duty-bound to find the Profundity Fragments for the sect. However, if there are no incentives, I'm afraid it's not enough to raise the sect's disciples' morale." Duan Ling Tian looked at Guo Chong again before he slowly proclaimed, "Sect Leader, please consider this for a while. When the disciples enter the Martial Emperor's secret treasure knowing that they will not get to keep the Profundity Fragments for themselves, how passionate do you think they would be when they're searching for the Profundity Fragments? At that time, their minds will be totally focused on the high-level items such as the Concept Fragments or spirit weapon instead. After all, no matter how many pieces of those items they get, it'll belong to them!"

When he reached this point, Duan Ling Tian paused for a moment before he changed his tone and said, "However, if the sect promises that no matter who it is, we can keep the second or the third Profundity Fragments that we found for ourselves, I'm sure all of the sect's disciples will be willing to risk their lives to search for the Profundity Fragments instead! After all, a piece of Profundity Fragment is more than enough to change one's life! All of the sect's disciples present here were chosen by the sect. Each of them possesses a strong innate skill and comprehension. I'm sure they'll eventually make a breakthrough to the Ninth Level Void comprehend Transformation and Ninth the Level Transformation Concept someday! To them, the Profundity Fragment is also an equally rare treasure. I hope that you can consider this, Sect Leader. I can't speak for everyone. In my case, I might be willing to search for the Profundity Fragments for the sect's sake in order to repay the debt for the training I received from the sect. However, if the Profundity Fragment is in the hands of a young powerhouse whose strength is on par or stronger than mine and could potentially kill me, I'll most likely not fight for that Profundity Fragment! After all, we only have one life in this world. It's extremely precious and valuable. No matter how attractive the Profundity Fragment is, in the end, it's still not ours so there's no reason for us to risk our lives to fight for it!" Duan Ling Tian addressed the group in one breath.

"Senior Brother Ling Tian said it well!"

"That's right! If all of the Profundity Fragments that we obtain have to be given to the sect, then this will definitely lower our enthusiasm to search and fight for the Profundity Fragments!"

"Since it doesn't belong to us anyway, there's no reason for us to risk our lives for it!"

"However, if we can keep the second piece of Profundity Fragment that we find, I'll definitely fight till my last breath to snatch it! After all, it'll play a role in whether or not I'll be able to become a Martial Emperor in the future!"

"Same goes for me!"

"Although Senior Brother Ling Tian is young, every word of his is a gem, and they completely resonate with my heart!"

• • •

Before Guo Chong could respond in time, a clamor had already broken out among the group of Five Element Sect's disciples. From their words, it was obvious that they all agreed with Duan Ling Tian's opinion.

Nangong Yi, Tan Huan, and Tian Zhen were no exception as well.

Although Nangong Chen still had a cold look on his face, there were no doubts that he had the same thoughts from the constant gleaming of his eyes.

"Hurmph!" Although Hu Fei was displeased that this words came out of Duan Ling Tian's mouth, he had to admit that he actually agreed with Duan Ling Tian as well.

When Guo Chong saw the scene before him going out of control due to Duan Ling Tian's remark, he could not help but let out a wry smile.

He had to admit that Duan Ling Tian's remark had not only resonated with the other Five Element Sect's disciples' hearts but with his own heart too.

Although he would not be involved in the search for the Profundity Fragments, he could roughly understand the feelings of the people involved.

It was exactly like what Duan Ling Tian said. If the sect's disciples had to hand all of the Profundity Fragments to the sect no matter how many they obtained, their enthusiasm would be killed off no matter how loyal they were to the sect.

"Sect Leader, I agree with Duan Ling Tian about this matter!" At this moment, Qi Yu, the Peak Master of Wood Peak, suddenly stepped out and voiced out directly, "In order to stimulate the enthusiasm of the sect's disciples, I hope that you'll allow them to keep the second, third or even fourth Profundity Fragments that they manage to find in the Martial Emperor's secret treasure."

"I also agree with Duan Ling Tian!" This time, Yu Fang and Tian Gu, the Peak Masters of Water and Earth Peaks respectively, chimed in as well.

"What about you, Peak Master Cha Bai?" When he saw the three Peak Masters had stepped forward and agreed with Duan Ling Tian's remark, he instinctively looked over at Cha Bai who did not say a word at all, "Or could it be that you disagree with Duan Ling Tian?"

"I have no objection." Although Cha Bai hated Duan Ling Tian to the core, he knew that this was not the right time to be cocky. If he denied Duan Ling Tian's remark, even the disciples from Fire Peak would hate him as well.

"Alright!" When Guo Chong saw all four Peak Masters agreed with him, he nodded his head and immediately looked at the twenty young disciples of the Five Element Sect, including Duan Ling Tian. He announced clearly, "I, Guo Chong, the Sect Leader of Five Element Sect, give you my word on behalf of the sect that no matter how many Profundity Fragments you obtain from the

Martial Emperor's secret treasure, every one of you only need to hand in one to us. The disciple who hands in one to us will no longer need to hand in their Spatial Ring for us to check!" Guo Chong announced in one breath.

Suddenly, the eyes of all Five Element Sect's disciples shone brightly. Some began to breathe more rapidly than usual.

"All hail the Sect Leader!"

"In this case, I must obtain at least two Profundity Fragments even if I fight till my last breath!'

"Wait for me, Martial Monarch Stage!"

. . .

Chaos broke out in the group of Five Element Sect's disciples. Each and every one of them was extremely excited.

Guo Chong could not help but sigh emotionally when he saw this scene. He knew that the enthusiasm of the sect's disciples in finding and fighting for the Profundity Fragment had finally been successfully aroused. Now, all that was left was for them to enter the Martial Emperor's secret treasure and show off their skills.

Duan Ling Tian breathed a sigh of relief when he saw that situation had finally turned around.

'I hope that I'll be able to get my hands on one Profundity Fragment that's not useful to me in that Martial Emperor's secret treasure. It can also be considered as repayment for the grace of the Five Element Sect and for my training,' he thought to himself.

Previously, the Five Element Sect had given him three spirit fruits and even allowed him to enter the Profound Assimilation Formation. It resulted in him making a great breakthrough in his strength.

The training was also a sign of their grace after all. If he did not repay it, he would feel uneasy about it.

'However, I'm sure that the Martial Emperor's secret treasure won't have too many Profundity Fragments. If I really can't find any Profundity Fragments inside, I'll have to think of another way and hide the three Profundity Fragments I have on hand,' Duan Ling Tian was prepared for the worst scenario.

It was impossible for him to hand in the three Profundity Fragments he had on hand.

The Wind Profundity Fragment, Thunder Profundity Fragment, and Sword Profundity Fragment.

These three Profundity Fragments were all Profundity Fragments that would be useful to him so he would never hand them over.

Chapter 924: Crimson Moon Sect's Provocation

"Let's go!" Guo Chong, the Sect Leader of Five Element Sect, shouted lightly. He continued leading the group of Five Element Sect people, including Duan Ling Tian, to fly forward to their destination.

Very soon, they reached a hill that had a vast area. It stretched as far as the eyes could see.

Suddenly, one of the Five Element Sect disciples cried out in surprise as if he had discovered something, "There's someone over there!"

Everybody immediately looked in the direction where he was staring, and they soon saw a group of people flying towards them swiftly from afar. In just a blink of an eye, this group of people arrived before them.

The other party had also noticed them as well. Each and every one of them came to a halt and stood confrontationally before them.

All of these people added together totaled to 24 people. There was a middle-aged man, three old men, and twenty young men and women that appeared like they were below forty years of age.

Other than the middle-aged man who was dressed casually, the three old men and the twenty young men and women were all wearing a red robe that had gold or copper trims. The three old men were wearing robes with gold trims while the twenty young men and women were wearing red robes with copper trims. The badges pinned on their chests looked like a reddish moon.

"Uniforms?" Duan Ling Tian raised his brows. Skywolf Fort immediately came to his mind.

The group of Vice Fort Masters from the Skywolf Fort and their

disciples were all usually in some sort of uniform too.

'Skywolf Fort, we'll eventually settle the bill between us once and for all!' The moment he thought about Skywolf Fort, Duan Ling Tian's eyes immediately flashed with crimson red.

The scene when Ta Mu died from blocking an attack for him when he was hunted by the five Vice Fort Masters of Skywolf Fort was still vivid in his mind.

A blood debt had to be repaid with blood!

"It's the people from Crimson Moon Sect!" A loud clamor erupted next to Duan Ling Tian's ears. Many of Five Element Sect's disciples started to whisper to each other.

"The Crimson Moon Sect?" Duan Ling Tian finally understood when he saw the crimson moon badge pinned on the chests of the group of people before him.

He was not unfamiliar with the Crimson Moon Sect at all.

Originally when he was still staying with the Ye Family at Driftcloud Town, Ye Xuan had mentioned Crimson Moon Sect to him before.

For this reason, he knew that Crimson Moon Sect, just like Five Element Sect, was also one of the three major forces in the eastern district of the northern desert.

Their strength was in no way inferior to Five Element Sect.

"Sect Leader Ren," Guo Chong greeted lightly when he saw the middle-aged man who led the group. "I didn't expect that Crimson Moon Sect has also received the news."

"That middle-aged man, who's dressed casually, with a mediumbuilt body and ordinary looking features, is the Sect Leader, Ren Ji. It's said that his cultivation base has already reached the peak of the Void," a familiar voice entered Duan Ling Tian's ears instantly when he looked at the middle-aged man. It was none other than Chen Wei who was using Voice Transmission to tell him about the middle-aged man's identity.

"Likewise, I didn't expect news to travel so fast to your Five Element Sect! However, only a capable man will be able to obtain the secret treasure left behind by the Martial Emperor!" Ren Ji said as he swept a glance at Guo Chong indifferently before pausing for a little while.

His sharp gaze swept pass all the twenty young Five Element Sect's disciples one by one before it landed on Duan Ling Tian, and he burst out laughing, "Sect Leader Guo, looks like you really don't have any other candidates among the younger generations in Five Element Sect huh? Don't you think a young boy like him should just stay back and be nursed at home?"

"Hahahaha..." The moment these words left Ren Ji's mouth, the three old men behind him and the twenty young men and women burst out laughing instantly. Their laughter was full of mockery.

"Sect Leader is right! Such a young boy should just stay home and drink milk instead!"

"Look at him, I'm sure he's only around 25 years old. Is that trash seeking for his death in the Martial Emperor's secret treasure?"

"Perhaps he feels that dying in the Martial Emperor's secret treasure is something to be proud of!"

• • •

Many of the Crimson Moon Sect's disciples commented without restraint as they mocked Duan Ling Tian with their intentionally raised voice. They deliberately followed the Sect Leader of Crimson Moon Sect's example and wanted to shame the Five Element Sect on purpose.

Humiliation!

What a blatant humiliation!

Despite the calm look on Duan Ling Tian's face, his narrowed eyes gleamed coldly. It imperceptibly exposed his current feelings.

His gaze was focused on the few Crimson Moon Sect's disciples who were mocking him happily without restraint.

When the opportunity presented itself later, he would definitely kill these people off without mercy!

His dignity should never be trampled on by anyone.

Drink milk?

Guo Chong's expression turned very ugly.

The three forces of the eastern district in the northern desert had no tolerance for each other all along. If anyone of them had the ability to annihilate the other two forces, they would definitely not wait until the next day to make their moves.

However, Guo Chong did not expect the Crimson Red Sect to be so blatant during an occasion like this. The moment they met, they had immediately mocked his Five Element Sect's disciples.

"Sect Leader Ren, as the dignified leader of a sect, don't you think it's a little inappropriate to treat a junior like this?" Guo Chong asked in a deep voice.

"Inappropriate? No, I don't think so!" Ren Ji replied nonchalantly with a calm expression. "If he thinks what I said is incorrect, he can always come out and challenge any one of the twenty young disciples from my Crimson Moon Sect! If he can beat any one of them, I, Ren Ji, the Sect Leader of the Crimson Moon Sect, will take back my words from earlier!"

Swoosh!

The instance the words left Ren Ji's mouth, a purple figure had already flew past the group of Five Element Sect's people and stood right in front of Guo Chong, the Sect Leader of Five Element Sect.

It was none other than Duan Ling Tian.

"Boy, you really dare to come out huh?" When Ren Ji saw Duan Ling Tian stepped out from the Five Element Sect's group, his eyes were immediately filled with surprise before he continued to mock him, "I have to remind you though, you might lose your life by being so blindly courageous and impulsive!"

"Sect Leader Ren, do you intend to take back your words from earlier willingly?" Duan Ling Tian's gaze was extremely calm. Even when he was faced with Ren Ji, the Sect Leader of Crimson Moon Sect, he was neither haughty nor humble. With his indifferent tone, it was like he was talking to a person who was of no significance.

"Huh?" Ren Ji was astounded before bursting into a fit of laughter, "Looks like you intend to seek death then?"

"Lad! Come! Come and challenge me! I'll fight you!"

"Oy, that boy from the Five Element Sect, come and challenge me if you have the balls!"

"Me too!"

• • •

The seven Crimson Moon Sect's disciples who trampled on Duan Ling Tian's dignity with their words along with Ren Ji's words earlier were looking at him as they shouted. It was apparent from the smug look on their faces that they looked down on Duan Ling Tian.

As he hovered in the sky, Duan Ling Tian narrowed his eyes and swept his gaze across the seven Crimson Moon Sect's disciples who were still clamoring about. His cool voice resonated emotionlessly, "Since the seven of you want to fight me, then I'll just go along with your wishes! All seven of you, come out now and fight with me together!"

The moment Duan Ling Tian's words left his mouth, not only were the seven Crimson Moon Sect disciples stunned, the

remaining thirteen Crimson Moon Sect's disciples were taken aback by his words as well.

The three old men who were wearing red robes with gold trims and Ren Ji, the Sect Leader of Crimson Moon Sect, were also stunned.

On the other hand, on the side where the Five Element Sect stood, the group of people under Guo Chong the Sect Leader did not even have a change in their expressions. It was like the scene before their eyes did not even warrant any change of emotions in their hearts.

'Hurmph! This guy is trying to show off again!' Cha Bai, the Peak Master of Fire Peak, and his direct disciple, Hu Fei, snorted secretly.

"Huh?" At this moment, Ren Ji, the Sect Leader of Crimson Moon Sect, had also noticed the group of Five Element Sect people's expressions. His heart jolted instantly.

Could it be that he had made a wrong judgment?

When Ren Ji thought of this, he eyed the purple-clad young man in front of him from top to bottom with great attention. The eyes were so sharp as if it could pierce through everything were tightly locked on Duan Ling Tian as though he wanted to see through him thoroughly.

Duan Ling Tian's face remained indifferent, neither happy nor angry, as he faced Ren Ji's scrutiny.

"Hahahaha..." At the same time, the seven Crimson Moon Sect's disciples who were just called out by Duan Ling Tian regained their senses and burst into a fit of laughter. It was as if they had heard the biggest joke in the world.

"Wanting to challenge seven at the same time alone? Seven of us simultaneously?"

"Is he even sane?"

...

The seven Crimson Moon Sect's disciples looked at Duan Ling Tian with a sneer, the words that came out of their mouths were even ruder than before.

At this time, even among the other thirteen Crimson Moon Sect disciples, many people could not help but burst out laughing as well.

Naturally, there were also a few of Crimson Moon Sect's disciples who were observant and had noticed the calm and indifferent looks on the group of Five Element Sect's people. When they shifted their glances towards Duan Ling Tian who looked as calm as before, a hint of dread could be seen in their eyes.

"What? You dare not?" The expression on Duan Ling Tian's face remained unchanged even when faced with the repeated provocations from the seven Crimson Moon Sect's disciples. Hovering in the sky, the purple robe on his body billowed from the light breeze as he stared at the seven people before his eyes.

"What? Did you just say that we dare not?!"

"Just because we didn't bare our fangs, you think that we're some sick cats huh?!"

"Brothers! Since he looks down on us so much, we must teach him a good lesson!"

• • •

The seven Crimson Moon Sect's disciples were completely infuriated by Duan Ling Tian. One by one, they flew out and surrounded Duan Ling Tian as they glared at him viciously.

Ren Ji, the Sect Leader of Crimson Moon Sect, frowned. He was beginning to vaguely feel that something was not right. That purple-clad Five Element Sect's disciple seemed to be a bit overconfident.

Was he really that confident in himself?

Or was he deliberately trying to look mysterious?

At this moment, Ren Ji saw the calm expressions on the Five Element Sect's people again, and he began to feel uncertain as well. However, since things had already progressed to this point, how could he stop it now?

After all, he was the person who asked the other party to come out for a challenge. If he stopped the fight now, would it not be like slapping his own face?

The three old men wearing the gold-trimmed red robe in Crimson Moon Sect also began to look more sullen. Similar to Ren Ji, they could also faintly feel that something was wrong.

"Sect Leader Ren, I remember you told me earlier that I might lose my life due to blind courage right?" Duan Ling Tian, who was surrounded by the seven Crimson Moon Sect's disciples, looked at Ren Ji as he nonchalantly said, "Then, does this mean that you agree for me to fight with your seven Crimson Moon Sect's people to death, Sect Leader Ren?"

Upon hearing this, Ren Ji's face fell instantly. However, there was no way for him to refute it at all.

He indeed did say it previously.

"You lad! Looks like you really want to die huh?!"

"We'll help you if you really want to die!"

• • •

The seven Crimson Moon Sect's disciples who surrounded Duan Ling Tian roared loudly one after another. The Origin Energy on their bodies whirled, and their Concepts immediately rose.

Chapter 925: Slicing Seven Throats with One Slice of Sword!

When they saw how the seven people from Crimson Moon Sect were about to launch their attacks on Duan Ling Tian, everyone, be it the people from Crimson Moon Sect or Five Element Sect, was watching the scene intently.

Among the people from Crimson Moon Sect, dread immediately filled the eyes of Ren Ji the leader, the three old men and a few other Crimson Moon Sect's disciples' who were more observant.

Duan Ling Tian's confidence elicited a sense of ill omen from the bottom of their hearts.

On the other hand, the rest of Crimson Moon Sect's disciples sneered as they watched Duan Ling Tian who was surrounded by their seven brothers from the same sect. Their gazes were so cold that it was as if they were looking at a dead man.

In their opinion, this five Element Sect's disciple would definitely die.

Among the people of Five Element Sect with Guo Chong as the leader, all of them thought Duan Ling Tian would immediately cast his innate ability and create an illusion to disrupt the seven Crimson Moon Sect's disciples. At that time, the seven Crimson Moon Sect's disciples would flail around uselessly before him and be finished off in one blow.

Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh!

...

The Origin Energy on the seven Crimson Moon Sect's disciples suddenly burst out. Their Concepts merged with the Origin Energy like shadows, and 100 silhouettes of ancient horned dragons began to appear above each of their heads.

Among the seven Crimson Moon Sect's disciples, the person who was the strongest had a cultivation base at the Fifth Level Void Interpretation and a comprehension of the Sixth Level Void Interpretation Concept. The weakest one had a cultivation base at the Third Level Void Interpretation with a comprehension of the Third Level Void Interpretation Concept.

Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh!

• • •

As though they had planned beforehand, the seven Crimson Moon Sect's disciples launched their attacks at the same time. Without the use of spirit weapons, their fists and palms all struck out and charged towards Duan Ling Tian who was surrounded by them.

Nearly 1000 silhouettes of ancient horned dragons formed a circle in the sky. They bared their fangs and claws as they pounced towards Duan Ling Tian as if they were about to tear him into pieces.

Boom! Boom! Boom! Boom!

• • •

The seven Crimson Moon Sect's disciples charged as they attacked, be it with their palms or fists. They carried the strength of 100 ancient horned dragons as they ripped the sky apart. A series of shrill and ear-piercing air blast was set off at the place that they passed through. At the place where the air blast was set off, the air flow in the air compressed and immediately exploded, setting off waves and waves of wind.

As the wind spread, it transformed into flurries of strong hurricanes that blew the Five Element Sect's and Crimson Moon Sect's disciples who were watching by the side. It was to the extent that some of them had to squint their eyes.

Only the senior officials from Five Element Sect and Crimson

Moon Sect, and those disciples with a slightly higher cultivation base were watching the scene before their eyes intently without missing even a single detail.

When Duan Ling Tian saw how the seven Crimson Moon Sect's disciples were charging at himself and were aiming at his vital parts, Duan Ling Tian's eyes narrowed into slits. A cold gleam flashed across his eyes.

The instance the cold gleam flashed across his eyes, his hands were already lifted up. The Origin Energy in his hands immediately converged and formed a white three-foot long blade out of thin air.

The Origin Energy converged and became a sword. In the next moment, it seemed like became incorporeal as it transformed into a sword that was solidified from purple electrical snakes.

At the same time, streaks of purple lightning and thunder appeared on the sword like shadows that were intertwined with one another.

All of this happened with the speed of light.

Apart from the senior officials and a few other stronger disciples from the Five Element Sect and Crimson Moon Sect, everyone else could not clearly see what Duan Ling Tian was doing at all.

Swoosh!!

In the next second, a sword-whistling sound resonated and died down as soon as it appeared. Accompanied by the ear-piercing thunder, everybody on the scene could hear the sound very clearly.

Whoosh!

Almost at the moment when the sword-whistling sound that was accompanied by the thunder came to an abrupt halt, all the crowd could see was a flash of purple lightning that rose up to the sky before it vanished in the encirclement of the seven Crimson Moon Sect's disciples in a blink of an eye.

Boom! boom! boom! boom!

...

When the purple lightning soared up to the sky, everybody could see that the throats of the seven Crimson Moon Sect's disciples, who looked threatening earlier, were spurting out blood continuously. At the same time, their bodies collided brutally with flesh and blood flying everywhere.

Due to inertia, their fast speed could be likened to seven sports cars that collided on Earth where Duan Ling Tian lived in his past life. They collided until everything was completely smashed!

The entire place became deadly silent instantly when everyone saw the seven disfigured bodies.

Whoosh!

Concurrently, above the purple figure that was hovering in the sky, the Heaven and Earth Phenomenon that did not even have the chance to solidify dissipated immediately.

Duan Ling Tian stood straight with both of his hands behind him as he hovered in the sky. The purple robe on his body billowed from the breeze, and his handsome face was extremely cold.

A pair of calm eyes were looking directly at the seven fallen bodies without any hint of emotion at all.

The seven Crimson Moon Sect's disciples had been annihilated by him with just a slice to the throat.

One slice that killed seven men!

"What a fast sword!"

"That sword contained the Thunder Concept!"

"Although his attack was very brief, and the Heaven and Earth Phenomenon did not solidify into form, the speed in which he launched his attack earlier is at least 200 silhouettes of ancient horned dragons or more!" ...

Horror instantly dawned on the senior officials of the Crimson Moon Sect, including Ren Ji the Sect Leader.

Earlier, they had seen Duan Ling Tian's attack clearly with their eyes. They also saw that with just one slice, the seven Crimson Moon Sect's disciples were all dead.

Naturally, they immediately wanted to step out and rescue them at that moment. However, they noticed that the senior officials from Five Element Sect had their auras focused on them just as they were about to make their moves.

They knew that if they made a move, they would be stopped by the senior officials from Five Element Sect. For this reason, they could not make any move at all. Instead, they could only watch in pain as their seven lively Crimson Moon Sect's disciples turned into seven disfigured bodies.

'H-How did he become so powerful? He's only so young!' With a ghastly pale face, Ren Ji clenched his teeth and stared fixedly at the purple figure in the sky. He was itching to make a move and kill him off. However, he also knew that as long as Guo Chong, the Sect Leader of Five Element Sect, was there, he would not be able to kill Duan Ling Tian at all.

At this moment, the three old men wearing the gold-trimmed red robes, who were the three great Vice Sect Leaders, were all looking extremely pale as well. Despite their fury, none of them made any move towards Duan Ling Tian.

The incident today was their mistake no matter how they tried to justify it. Moreover, they might not necessarily win against the Five Element Sect's people even if they planned to play rough.

The five Peak Masters of Five Element Sect had been fighting with them for so many years now. Their strengths were on par with each other. They could not do anything to the other party,

and the other party could not do anything to them either. If they were to battle it out, both sides would eventually sustain great loses.

This was not something they wanted to see.

"Good job, lad!" Guo Chong, the Sect Leader, said. Guo Chong and the senior officials of the Five Element Sect — Qi Yu, Yu Fang and Tian Gu, the Peak Masters of Wood, Water and Earth respectively — were looking at Duan Ling Tian with a face full of pleasant surprise.

Initially, they thought Duan Ling Tian would use his innate ability to slowly torture them to death when he faced the seven disciples from Crimson Moon Sect.

It did not cross their minds that Duan Ling Tian would choose to use the most simple method and kill them directly with just a slice of his sword when faced with the threatening seven disciples from Crimson Moon Sect. At this moment, when they saw the pale faces of the Crimson Moon Sect's senior officials, bright smiles lit up their faces instantly.

"Hurmph!" Cha Bai, the Peak Master of Fire Peak, snorted secretly to himself. Although he enjoyed this ending very much, he could not help but feel displeased the moment he recalled the fact that it was Duan Ling Tian who launched the attack.

If the person who had annihilated the seven Crimson Moon Sect's disciples was his own direct disciple, Hu Fei, he would definitely be so happy that he would even laugh out loud in his sleep.

"Haha... Duan Ling Tian! Great job!" Huang Daniu laughed excitedly as he pumped his fist in the air.

Chen Wei, who was standing at the side, smiled as well.

The rest of the Five Element Sect's disciples, including Nangong Yi, Tan Huan, and Tian Zhen, had a brilliant smile on their faces.

The only exception was Hu Fei.

Even a rare faint smile could be seen playing on the corner of Nangong Chen's mouth.

"Previously, the seven Crimson Moon Sect's disciples persistently humiliated and mocked Duan Ling Tian. Look at how well that situation turned out! Every one of them became mere souls under Senior Brother's Ling Tian's sword!"

"That's right! When they surrounded Senior Brother Ling Tian, they looked so arrogant. However, in just a blink of an eye, they're all gone!"

"It's a pity that I'm still too weak so I didn't see clearly how Senior Brother Ling Tian launched his attack. The slice of his sword was incredibly fast!"

. . .

The Five Element Sect's disciples were discussing it animatedly. Each of their faces was filled with an excited smile.

At this moment, they were no longer divided into Gold, Wood, Water, Fire or Earth Peaks. Instead, they all belonged to only one sect — the Five Element Sect.

They shared wealth and woes with the Five Element Sect!

Contrary to the excitement that the Five Element Sect's disciples felt, the remaining thirteen Crimson Moon Sect's disciples looked extremely pale in comparison. Just one blow and the seven Crimson Moon Sect's disciples were instantly killed off by an awfully young disciple from the Five Element Sect.

He annihilated seven men with just a slice to the throat.

Until this moment, they were still in a state of disbelief.

Some of them even wondered if they were actually dreaming, and they could not help but extend their hands to pinch their own thighs. The pain that came from their thighs seemed to indicate that everything that had happened earlier was not a dream after all. It was indeed real.

"What a fast sword! Senior Brother Hong Qing, did you see that clearly?" A Crimson Moon Sect's disciple asked another disciple from the same sect by his side with a dismal look on his face.

The Crimson Moon Sect's disciple who was known as Senior Brother Hong Qing had a strong and tough body with a pair of unruly eyebrows. His pair of eyes were brimming with vigor while his cold and aloof face appeared extremely determined.

The extraordinary aura that radiated out of his entire body was not on the same level as the other Crimson Moon Sect's disciples.

"Yes, I did. His cultivation base must be higher than the Eighth Level Void Interpretation. Moreover, the Thunder Concept that he demonstrated earlier must also be at the Eighth Level Void Interpretation Concept at least." Hong Qing nodded his head, and his sharp gaze was filled with killing intent. From the beginning until now, it did not leave the purple figure in the sky at all. It was as though he could not wait to kill him off with his own hands.

"Senior Brother Hong Qing, you mean even without a spirit weapon, he's able to cast the strength of 200 ancient horned dragons with just his Origin Energy and Thunder Concept?" The Crimson Moon Sect's disciple who asked the question earlier could not stop himself from gasping in shock.

Without any spirit weapon, he had a strength of 200 ancient horned dragons.

One could not help but tremble against such terrifying strength!

"Sect Leader Ren, I'm sorry that you lost so many of your young powerhouses that were about to enter the Martial Emperor's secret treasure." Guo Chong flashed Ren Ji a faint smile as he looked at him.

However, there was no hint of apology at all on his face. It

appeared to have a hint of ridicule instead.

With a ghastly pale face, Ren Ji answered in a low voice, "Guo Chong, don't be too proud yet! Those people that he killed were only some weaker disciples that we, Crimson Moon Sect, sent out!"

Chapter 926: Qi Yu's Past

"Master!" At this time, one person — a man with a sturdy body — stepped out of the Crimson Moon Sect and went to stand beside Ren Ji.

The young man's eyes gleamed coldly as he stared at the purple figure in the distance.

"I want to have a battle with him... A life-and-death battle!" The young man's voice was filled with an extreme coldness that it made other people who heard it felt as if they had just fallen into a thaw hole.

"I-It's Senior Brother Hong Qing!" Before Ren Ji could respond, many of the Crimson Moon Sect's disciples' eyes lit up instantly. As they looked at the young man, their eyes were filled with veneration.

"Senior Brother Hong Qing is the proud disciple of the Sect Leader. He's only 38 years old, and his cultivation base has already reached the Ninth Level Void Interpretation. Just some time ago, he managed to comprehend the First Level Advance Fire Concept after coming out of the Profound Assimilation Foundation. Moreover, Senior Brother Hong Qing has also comprehended the Second Level Intermediate Saber concept. Even without any spirit weapon, his full strength amounts to 350 ancient horned dragons!"

"Hehe... Now that Senior Brother Hong Qing has decided to make his move, that kid will definitely die! Well, unless he dares to turn down the challenge!"

"I'm sure he doesn't have the guts to accept the challenge!"

• • •

The Crimson Moon Sect's disciples buried their heads together in a heated argument. Their voices spread without restraint and reached the ears of the Five Element Sect's people, and it made them turn pale immediately.

The young man that was standing beside Ren Ji, the Sect Leader of Crimson Moon Sect, had already comprehended the Void Transformation Concept?

Moreover, his cultivation base was already at the Ninth Level Void Interpretation! Additionally, he had also comprehended another concept, the Second Level Intermediate Saber Concept!

Just his Origin Energy alone, the Ninth Level Void Interpretation already amounted to the strength of 120 ancient horned dragons.

The First Level Advance Fire Concept amounted to the strength of 200 ancient horned dragons.

The Second Level Intermediate Saber Concept amounted to the strength of 30 ancient horned dragons.

Indeed, this Hong Qing could unleash the strength of 350 ancient horned dragons even without the help of any spirit weapon.

The Five Element Sect's people, including Guo Chong, the Sect Leader of Five Element Sect, and a few Peak Masters, immediately turned glum.

Although they knew Duan Ling Tian was a Variant and could cast his innate ability to construct that mysterious illusion, they did not know if the innate ability that was cast by Duan Ling Tian's Spiritual Energy could affect a Ninth Level Void Interpretation martial artist or not.

If he could not be affected, Duan Ling Tian would be in a disadvantageous position.

After all, the Duan Ling Tian they knew had only comprehended the Ninth Level Intermediate Thunder Concept and the Third Level Intermediate Wind Concept.

When it came to real strength, he was not a match for this Hong Qing, the proud disciple of the Sect Leader of Crimson Moon Sect.

"Huh?" When Hong Qing personally requested to challenge Duan Ling Tian, Ren Ji's face was still a little distressed as he carefully studied the changes on the Five Element Sect's senior officials' faces, including Guo Chong, the Sect Leader of Five Element Sect.

This was because he did not know that if that Five Element Sect's disciple had given his all or not when he killed the seven Crimson Moon Sect's disciples earlier. Before he could grasp the background of the other party, he would not let his most valued disciple take such a risk.

However, the moment he saw the expressions of Guo Chong and the others became sullen, he knew immediately that Guo Chong and the rest did not think Duan Ling Tian would be able to defeat his disciple.

"Hahahaha! Good! Good!" Ren Ji immediately burst out laughing.

After a moment, his laughter finally died off as he stared Guo Chong in the eyes and snorted, "Guo Chong, weren't you so pleased with yourself earlier? Now, my useless disciple is going to challenge that Five Element Sect's disciple of yours. Does your Five Element Sect dare to accept this challenge?"

Before Guo Chong could open his mouth to reply, Tian Gu already snorted coldly as he loudly mocked, "Hurmph! A 38 years old man challenging our Five Element Sect's disciple who is below 30 years old? Ren Ji, how low can you stoop?"

"Shorty! I'm talking to Guo Chong right now. Who says that you can interrupt our conversation?" Ren Ji said scornfully to Tian Gu in a casual manner.

"What did you say?" Height had always been a taboo topic for Tian Gu.

Usually, in the Five Element Sect and Earth Peak, nobody dared to use the word 'short' in front of him.

Now that somebody had disregarded his taboo and openly

revealed his scars, he was instantly infuriated. The vast Origin Energy on his body whirled and transformed into khaki energy that enveloped his entire being.

In the next moment, Tian Gu disappeared before the eyes of all Five Element Sect's and Crimson Moon Sect's disciples.

Naturally, he did not actually disappear. It was just that his speed was so fast that it was difficult for the naked eyes to see.

"So fast!" Duan Ling Tian who was hovering in the sky above narrowed his eyes instantly. This was his first time seeing Tian Gu, the Peak Master of Earth Peak, make his move.

In his opinion, Tian Gu was nothing but an Inscription Master who was far from being handsome and had a particularly small stature. It did not even cross his mind that Tian Gu's strength was actually at the Eighth Level Void Transformation.

At this moment, he used his cultivation base that had already entered the Ninth Level Void Interpretation and his Spiritual Energy that had elevated up to First Level Void Transformation to probe Tian Gu's cultivation base. After his Spiritual Energy had made a breakthrough to the First Level Void Transformation, Duan Ling Tian could see the cultivation base of all Void Transformation martial artist.

For instance, Guo Chong, the Sect Leader of Five Element Sect, and Qi Yu, the Peak Master of Wood Peak, were both at the Ninth Level Void Transformation. As for Cha Bai and Yu Fang, the Peak Masters of Fire and Water Peak respectively, were both at the Eighth Level Void Transformation, just like Tian Gu.

Perhaps, Duan Ling Tian would not raise any suspicion if he probed Guo Chong, Qi Yu, Cha Bai, and Yu Fang who were not Inscription Masters.

However, if he probed Tian Gu, he would definitely be discovered immediately. This was because Tian Gu was an Inscription Master.

For this reason, he had always held himself back from probing Tian Gu.

Only at this moment when Tian Gu had no time to attend to other matters that Duan Ling Tian finally extended his Spiritual Energy to probe his cultivation.

Under the watchful eyes of the crowd, Tian Gu quickly appeared before Ren Ji, the Sect Leader of Crimson Moon Sect.

Before all of the Five Element Sect's and Crimson Moon Sect's disciples, including Duan Ling Tian, had time to react, they heard a loud noise that sounded like thunder rumbling in their direction.

Boom!

Then, they finally saw it.

Tian Gu's small body immediately flew out, and it was only until a 100 meters away later that he finally managed to stabilize his body.

"Barf!" Tian Gu's body shuddered, and his face turned red instantly as he spat out a mouthful of blood.

"Father!" Tian Zhen's face turned pale immediately. Hastily, he flew forward to check on Tian Gu's injuries.

"Ren Ji!" Guo Chong's face darkened at once when he saw Tian Gu, the Peak Master of Earth Peak, was injured. When he looked at Ren Ji again, his eyes were filled with extreme coldness.

"We, Crimson Moon Sect, were the first to provoke your Five Element Sect. For that reason, our people were killed by you. We admitted that that was our wrong so we did not pursue the matter. However, your people are the one provoking us now, and he's not even dead yet! Just like this and you can't hold yourself back anymore?" Ren Ji mocked as he cast an aloof glance at Guo Chong.

Guo Chong's face darkened a little more, but he did not make any move at all.

As the other side had put it, this time, it was indeed Five Element Sect who had started it.

Naturally, he also knew the reason why Crimson Moon Sect did not seek to avenge the seven Crimson Moon Sect's disciples that were killed by Duan Ling Tian. It was not because they knew they were at fault. Instead, they were worried that they themselves and Five Element Sect would both end up suffering great losses.

At this moment, he did not make any move not because he felt that his own side was at fault. Instead, he was also worried that Five Element Sect and Crimson Moon Sect would be weakened by the fight.

If Five Element Sect and Crimson Moon Sect suffered great losses, it would only be an advantage for the Wind Sand Sect, which was the final major force among the three in the eastern district of the northern desert.

"Yes, that's right! We, from Five Element Sect, really can't hold back any longer!" Just as the atmosphere became somewhat weird, a cold voice reverberated in the air and shocked the Five Element Sect's disciples to the core. They quickly looked at the owner of the voice.

"Peak Master?" Duan Ling Tian hovered in the air as he looked down. He saw that the person who spoke out was none other than Qi Yu, the Peak Master of Wood Peak.

Qi Yu stood out and looked at Ren Ji in the eyes with no fear.

"Qi Yu? What? The injury from twenty plus years ago has already healed?" Ren Ji looked at Qi Yu and scoffed, "Qi Yu, that time, you were widely recognized in the eastern district of the northern desert as a genius martial artist that was hard to come by in every 100 years. It was to the point that many people even said that you'd become the first Martial Monarch in the eastern district of the northern desert in 1000 years! Unfortunately, that injury from twenty over years ago must not have fully healed yet right? I'm

sure you're no longer as strong as you were twenty over years before. If you weren't injured twenty over years ago, I'd probably be slightly afraid of you. However, right now in my eyes, you're no different from that shorty at all!" As Ren Ji reached the end of his sentence, he cast another glance at Tian Gu who had just returned to stand behind Guo Chong.

For a time, Tian Gu was so infuriated that he threw up another mouthful of blood. The face of Tian Zhen, who was supporting Tian Gu, immediately darkened as he glared fiercely at Ren Ji.

At this moment, he hated himself for being too weak and was not able to avenge his father.

Whoosh!

Upon hearing Ren Ji's words, all of the Five Element Sect's and Crimson Moon Sect's disciples, including Duan Ling Tian, were completely dumbfounded. Their eyes fell on Qi Yu instantly. It did not even cross their minds that this middle-aged man standing before their eyes actually had such a glorious past.

The genius martial artist that was hard to come by every 100 years in the eastern district of the northern desert.

The person who was widely acknowledged as having the potential to become the first Martial Monarch in the eastern district of the northern desert in 1000 years.

'I didn't know that Peak Master had that kind of past,' Duan Ling Tian could not help but sigh emotionally.

Actually, it was not only Duan Ling Tian, the group of Wood Peak's disciples, including Huang Daniu and Chen Wei, could not help but sigh as well.

They also knew nothing about Qi Yu's past.

"Why don't you come and try it out for yourself to see if I'm still as strong as I was twenty over years ago?" Qi Yu, who was in the limelight, finally spoke faintly.

The moment these words left his mouth, he disappeared into thin air before the eyes of the Five Element Sect's and Crimson Moon Sect's disciples, including Duan Ling Tian.

The speed was so fast that it was horrifying.

"Huh?" Right at this moment, the face of Ren Ji, the Sect Leader of Crimson Moon Sect, turned glum immediately as if he had noticed something.

Horror suddenly dawned on his face!

The instant his expression changed, his entire being vanished in front of Duan Ling Tian and the others.

Chapter 927: Complete Annihilation!

Wham!

A loud noise resonated from the endless explosions. It was like the roar of thunder piercing the ears.

Everyone, including Duan Ling Tian, immediately looked towards the source of the sound.

There was a wave of turquoise energy that collided with an azure green energy. When they exploded, the air flow became turbulent immediately.

Qi Yu, who was behind the turquoise blue energy, and Ren Ji, who was behind the azure-green energy, appeared out of thin air. However, they vanished again before everyone's eyes as soon as they appeared.

At the same time, a huge wave of air was set off at the center where the two waves of energy collided and swept out in all directions. Strong gusts of wind with a great oppressive force blotted the sky and covered the ground as it fell and pressed on everyone.

Apart from the senior officials of the Five Element Sect and the Crimson Moon Sect who were not affected, all of the Five Element Sect's and the Crimson Moon Sect's disciples, including Duan Ling Tian, were pressed down to the point that they were bent over.

Some of the Five Element Sect and the Crimson Moon Sect's disciples who had lower a cultivation base abruptly dropped down a hundred meter before they could finally stop their tracks and soar back up into the sky against the strong wind current.

"What a powerful force!"

"Is this the energy of a Ninth Level Void Transformation martial artist?"

...

The Five Element Sect's and the Crimson Moon Sect's disciples were struck dumb with amazement.

"Ninth Level Advance Water Concept and Ninth Level Advance Wind Concept. However, it seems like they're still withholding their power!" Although he could not see Qi Yu's and Ren Ji's movements clearly, Duan Ling Tian, who possessed the memories of the Martial Emperor's two reincarnations, had a rough idea of what happened when the two waves of energies collided earlier.

Whoosh! Whoosh!

Finally, Qi Yu and Ren Ji came into view again under the watchful eyes of the others.

Before the crowd even had time to figure out what was happening, a tremendous energy was already emanating out of their bodies and swept out without warning before crashing upon each other.

Wham!!

This time, the energies that collided were not at the same level compared to the previous one. Horrifying airwaves swept out, and strong hurricanes that covered the entire ground and sky crashed down immediately!

At this time, even the faces of the three Peak Masters from the Five Element Sect and three Vice Sect Leaders from the Crimson Moon Sect began to turn grave.

A layer of light Origin Energy rose out from their bodies and spread over them as it covered their bodies and forcibly resisted the invasion of the strong winds.

"Ahhhh!"

"I can't stand it anymore!"

. . .

At this moment, all of the Five Element Sect's and Crimson Moon Sect's disciples, including Duan Ling Tian, dropped down from the sky similar to dumplings that were dumped into a hot pan. They disappeared from the sky in an instant.

All Duan Ling Tian could feel was a strong irresistible wind that pressed down on him and forced him to fall straight down. Even when he cast a suitable Concept to help him, he still continued to fall.

'Other than the Ninth Level Advance Water Concept, it turns out that the Peak Master has also comprehended the Ninth Level Advance Fire Concept! It seems like he actually comprehends both Water and Fire Concepts at the same time! No wonder he was once widely regarded as someone who could become the first Martial Monarch in the eastern district of the northern desert in 1000 years!' When Duan Ling Tian recalled the scene that he saw before the strong winds covered the entire sky and ground, he could not suppress the shock that he felt.

It turned out that Qi Yu was a powerhouse who was at the peak of the Void Stage!

Although he had his own suspicion about it previously, he was not entirely sure. He finally confirmed his suspicion.

'The Peak Master comprehends the Water and Fire Concepts that are completely antagonistic to each other. Moreover, both of them have also reached the Ninth Level Void Transformation Concept stage! Even if he doesn't have the Profundity Fragment, he'll most likely be able to make a breakthrough to the Martial Monarch Stage and become a Martial Monarch very soon!' Duan Ling Tian thought to himself.

A powerhouse who had reached the peak of the Void Stage and had comprehended two types of conflicting Ninth Level Void Transformation Concept, like the Water and Fire Concepts, would have an easier time in breaking through to the next stage.

Due to the fact that water and fire were antagonistic to each other, these two Concepts would exert a greater pressure on the person to some extent, and in turn, it would spur the powerhouse who had reached the peak of the Void Stage to comprehend Profundity.

Once the powerhouse who had reached the peak of the Void Stage had comprehended Profundity, it was equivalent to obtaining a pass to enter the Martial Monarch Stage. As long as his Origin Energy was further elevated, he would then be able to successfully breakthrough to the Martial Monarch Stage!

Duan Ling Tian also noticed that the Sect Leader of the Crimson Moon Sect was a powerhouse who had reached the peak of the Void Stage as well. When he collided with Qi Yu earlier, he had also demonstrated the Ninth Level Advance Thunder Concept apart from the Ninth Level Advance Wind Concept.

'If that Ren Ji is killed by Peak Master, how good would it be if Peak Master gives me the two Concept Fragments that Ren Ji would leave behind!' Duan Ling Tian who was constantly falling due to the pressure from the strong winds thought happily to himself.

Ren Ji, the Sect Leader of the Crimson Moon Sect, was a powerhouse who had reached the peak of the Void Stage. If he died, he would leave behind a piece of Ninth Level Wind Concept Fragment and Ninth Level Thunder Concept Fragment. Both of these Concept Fragments were very useful to Duan Ling Tian. They were much better than the Wind and Thunder Concept Fragments that he had in hand.

"Qi Yu, it seems like I've underestimated you... I didn't expect that your injury has healed after twenty over years. Moreover, you even managed to make more progress after your downfall and elevated your cultivation base to the peak of the Void Stage!" A loud voice that contained a hint of dread resonated from the sky.

This time, the strong hurricanes that were raging below finally began to show signs of stopping. It allowed all of the Five Element Sect's and Crimson Moon Sect's disciples, including Duan Ling Tian, to rise up to the sky again.

After Duan Ling Tian had returned to high altitude, he looked towards Ren Ji, the Sect Leader of the Crimson Moon Sect, who was standing at an even higher altitude.

The remark earlier was made by Ren Ji.

At this moment, Qi Yu was standing not far in front of Ren Ji as they faced each other. They were locked in a stalemate. Neither happy nor angry, his face looked of calm. It was so calm that his countenance betrayed nothing of his thoughts.

"Today, due to my respect for you, Qi Yu, our Crimson Moon Sect will not have a dispute with your Five Element Sect! Let's go!" After taking a deep breath, Ren Ji came up with a reason to extricate himself from the situation. He proceeded to leave with the Crimson Moon Sect's people.

"This Ren Ji is scared now huh?" Duan Ling Tian whose attention had never left Ren Ji clearly noticed the deep look of dread that could be seen in Ren Ji's eyes. It was obvious that he was afraid of the current Five Element Sect.

Indeed, come to think of it, in the Five Element Sect, Guo Chong, the Sect Leader, must be a powerhouse who was at the peak of the Void Stage as well. Now that Qi Yu had entered the picture, how could Ren Ji not be afraid?

"Trying to leave? It's too late now!" Just as Ren Ji was about to leave, Qi Yu vanished from his spot in flash. When he reemerged again, he was already standing before Ren Ji, blocking his path.

"Qi Yu! Don't overdo it!" Ren Ji face turned utterly grave.

At this moment when Ren Ji's face changed its color, a wanton laughter reverberated in the air. That laughter came from Guo

Chong, the Sect Leader of Five Element Sect. "Hahahaha! Ren Ji, everyone from Crimson Moon Sect will have to remain here today!" As he reached the end of his sentence, his voice turned chilly instantly.

"Guo Chong! You..." Ren Ji narrowed his eyes. He instantly sensed what Guo Chong was about to do. However, he got cut off right away before he could even finish his sentence. This was because Qi Yu had just launched an attack on him.

Before the eyes of the Five Element Sect's and Crimson Moon Sect's disciples, including Duan Ling Tian, Qi Yu, and Ren Ji disappeared again in the air.

"I'll take care of that three old men! Cha Bai, Yu Fang, you two lead the sect's disciples and annihilate all the disciples from Crimson Moon Sect! Tian Gu, you're responsible for protecting the sect's disciples' wellbeing!" Guo Chong's loud and clear voice resonated in the air like thunder as he passed down his orders.

"Today, we'll cut off the four most important pillars and all of the future pillars of Crimson Moon Sect! When we return, we'll go to Crimson Moon Sect's base and completely wipe them out from the eastern district of the northern desert!" A bloody massacre was implied in Guo Chong's words.

His intention was very clear. Today, everyone from Crimson Moon Sect would remain here.

Upon hearing Guo Chong's words, the eyes of everyone from Five Element Sect lit up immediately.

"Crimson Moon Sect... is doomed!" Duan Ling Tian muttered to himself.

As for the three Vice Sect Leaders and the thirteen remaining disciples from Crimson Moon Sect, including Hong Qing, horror dawned on their faces instantly! Some of them were so scared that their bodies began to tremble fiercely as cold sweat began to form

on their foreheads.

They knew that this time Five Element Sect was about to slaughter their Crimson Moon Sect!

Meanwhile, Ren Ji, who was being chased by Qi Yu, cried out loudly and gave an order to the people from Crimson Moon Sect, "RUN!"

The instance they heard Ren Ji's order, the people from Crimson Moon Sect did not dare to hesitate anymore. Without the slightest delay, they fled in all directions one after another.

The position was very clear now.

The Five Element Sect had two powerhouses who were at the peak of the Void Stage. That meant that they could suppress the Crimson Moon Sect.

Flee! Flee! Flee!

• • •

The group from Crimson Moon Sect, including the three Vice Sect Leaders, scattered on command. They fled disorderly in all directions.

One of the Vice Sect Leaders was flying extremely fast. He was the first one to flee. In just a blink of an eye, he turned into a small black dot before Duan Ling Tian's eyes. Duan Ling Tian's eyes gleamed as he muttered, "Ninth Level Void Transformation! However, if Sect Leader casts his attack, he'll..."

Before Duan Ling Tian could even finish his words, he saw the small black dot came to a halt suddenly before dropping from the high altitude. He was dead!

At the same time, he also saw that after the death of the Ninth Level Void Transformation Vice Sect Leader from Crimson Moon Sect, Guo Chong appeared in front of the other two Vice Sect Leaders from the Crimson Moon Sect successively and instantly killed them.

In the face of a powerhouse who was at the peak of the Void Stage, an ordinary Ninth Level Void Transformation and two Eighth Level Void Transformation martial artists were like papier mache that crumbled with just a blow!

After Guo Chong killed the three Vice Sect Leaders from Crimson Moon Sect, he flashed again and vanished from his spot. He was on his way to help Qi Yu.

It was as easy as a snap of the fingers for two powerhouses who were at the peak of the Void Stage and had comprehended two Ninth Level Void Transformation Concepts, to kill a powerhouse who was at the peak of the Void Stage who had also comprehended two Ninth Level Void Transformation Concepts.

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"Kill!"
"Kill!"
"Kill!"
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At this time, loud battle cries entered Duan Ling Tian's ears. He could see that under the leadership of Cha Bai, Yu Fang, and Tian Gu, Nangong Chen, Nangong Yi, Huang Daniu and the rest of the Five Element Sect's disciples had begun to round off and kill the remaining Crimson Moon Sect's disciples.

For a moment, the group of Crimson Moon Sect's disciples, who did not have any intention to fight, died one by one. There were only a few people left.

Whoosh!

In the meantime, a swift figure struck Duan Ling Tian. He narrowed his eyes coldly at once, "Hong Qing!"

The person who came was none other than Hong Qing, the proud disciple of the Sect Leader of Crimson Moon Sect.

"Five Element Sect wants to annihilate my Crimson Moon Sect, so let me exterminate the Five Element Sect's genius disciple!" With a pair of bloodshot eyes, Hong Qing charged towards Duan Ling Tian like a lightning.

Chapter 928: Heart-Stopping Performance

Hong Qing, the disciple of the Sect Leader of Crimson Moon Sect was the favored one in Crimson Moon Sect.

Apart from his strength that was far superior to his peers, he also possessed an extremely rational mind and calm judgment. He was able to remain cool-headed in the face of disasters.

After seeing Qi Yu, the Peak Master of Wood Peak in Five Element Sect displayed a strength that was at the peak of Void Stage that was comparable to his master, a sense of danger began to rise in his heart.

Just as he expected, his master and Qi Yu were evenly matched in power. Neither side got the better of the other.

Guo Chong, the Sect Leader of Five Element Sect, who used to be the only powerhouse who was at the peak of Void Stage in Five Element sect, had just single-handedly killed the three Vice Sect Leaders of Crimson Moon Sect the moment his master shook off his bindings.

The other Crimson Moon Sect's disciples were also being massacred by the Five Element Sect's disciples under the guidance of the three Peak Masters.

When his master, Ren Ji, the Sect Leader of Crimson Moon Sect, ordered them to flee, he did not flee because he knew that he would not be able to escape them.

He would become an easier target to hunt if he had chosen to escape.

For this reason, he made himself scarce until he saw the purpleclad young man who was standing not too far away. It instantly reminded him of the fact that this young man had just killed seven of their Crimson Moon Sect's disciples with just a slice of his sword. The instance he thought of the purple-clad young man's age, jealousy rose in his heart immediately.

He was not even thirty years old yet he had already possessed a cultivation base at the Eighth Level Void Transformation and had possibly comprehended the Intermediate Thunder Concept that was at the Eighth Level or higher. Without any spirit weapon, he had demonstrated a strength that was more than 200 ancient horned dragons.

When Hong Qing was at that age, his strength was not even half of Duan Ling Tian's strength!

Although he was jealous, he could sense that the purple-clad young man played quite an important role in Five Element Sect. He must be the main subject of cultivation in the Five Element Sect or perhaps, the next Sect Leader of Five Element Sect.

For this reason, he had made up his mind since he knew that he would definitely die today. He had decided that he would kill the purple-clad young man and destroy the future pillar of Five Element Sect when everyone's attention was diverted.

"Die!" When Hong Qing pounced on Duan Ling Tian, his eyes were completely bloodshot.

A spirit saber appeared in his hand out of thin air. Blazing flames rose up from the saber as it transformed into a Flaming Saber that emanated a wave of fierce aura.

Whoosh!

The Heaven and Earth Energy whirled in the sky, and the Heaven and Earth Phenomenon rapidly solidified into form.

440 silhouettes of ancient horned dragons bared their teeth and fangs at Duan Ling Tian. It looked like they were about to tear him into pieces when they bore down on him menacingly!

Hong Qing was a martial artist at the Ninth Level Void Interpretation. When his Origin Energy fully burst out of his body,

his strength was equivalent to 120 ancient horned dragons.

The spirit saber in his hand was a grade two spirit weapon, it would be able to boost 80% of the owner's Origin Energy which was equivalent to ninety over ancient horned dragons.

The Ninth Level Intermediate Fire Concept was equal to the strength of 100 ancient horned dragons while the Second Level Intermediate Saber Concept was equal to the strength of thirty ancient horned dragons.

When Hong Qing unleashed his entire energy without any reservations, his strength would be equivalent to more than 440 ancient horned dragons.

Swish!

The Flaming Saber in Hong Qing's hand was swift and dexterous as it sliced through the sky and charged at Duan Ling Tian like a shadow. Explosions were set off at the place that it had gone past, and it continued exploding for a long period of time.

Waves of hot aura swept out in all directions and transformed into gusts of hot wind. It blew and many of the Five Element Sect's people shuddered for a moment before they finally realized what was happening.

"Shit! It's that Hong Qing! He's trying to kill Senior Brother Ling Tian!" One of the Five Element Sect's disciples, who responded the fastest, shouted.

Horror immediately dawned on the two Peak Masters and eighteen disciples of Five Element Sect.

"Duan Ling Tian!" Huang Daniu who had just slaughtered a Crimson Moon Sect's disciple immediately turned to look at Duan Ling Tian the moment he heard that shout.

The instance he saw that Hong Qing's Flaming Blade was just a foot away from Duan Ling Tian, his face turned pale at once.

"Shit! I didn't notice that Hong Qing!" Other than Cha Bai, the Peak Master of Fire Peak, who had a cold look on his face, the faces of Yu Fang and Tian Gu, the Peak Masters of Water and Earth Peaks respectively, turned grave as well the moment they saw this.

However, it was too late now even if they wanted to go to his rescue. Hong Qing's Flaming Saber was about to fall on Duan Ling Tian.

"Duan Ling Tian!" The Nangong Twins, Tan Huan, Tian Gu, and the rest of the Five Element Sect's disciples' hearts leaped.

At this moment, they could only hope that Duan Ling Tian's innate ability would work on Hong Qing. Otherwise, he would definitely die.

"Duan Ling Tian, I'll avenge my seven Crimson Moon Sect's brothers who died today! Avenge my Crimson Moon Sect! Killing you is equivalent to cutting off the Five Element Sect's arm!" When Hong Qing was charging towards Duan Ling Tian, his Voice Transmission pierced through Duan Ling Tian's ears. He shouted in a frenzy, and it made Duan Ling Tian's eardrums shake from the extreme vibration.

Duan Ling Tian narrowed his eyes immediately when he saw the Flaming Blade that was fast approaching him. This Flaming Blade that looked extremely fast to the others appeared awfully slow in his eyes. It was so slow that he even had the time and mood to reply Hong Qing's Voice Transmission.

"With just the strength of only 440 ancient horned dragons, I really wonder where you get your confidence from!" Duan Ling Tian's calm Voice Transmission entered Hong Qing's ears and made his face darkened slightly.

"You're just bluffing!" Hong Qing roared. The blazing flames on the Flaming Saber in his hand broke out and enveloped Duan Ling Tian from the top. If this flame really touched him, he would definitely die, if not crippled. Swoosh!

The Flaming Saber pierced through the air and set upon him as if God's Brush drew a boundless wildfire that shrouded Duan Ling Tian.

"Senior Brother Ling Tian!" When everyone saw Duan Ling Tian was shrouded by the boundless wildfire from the Flaming Saber, many of the Five Element Sect's disciples could not help but shut their eyes right away. They refused to watch his blood splattering all over the place.

However, in the next moment, the sound from a series of explosions that were set off by the Flaming Saber suddenly came to a halt.

Curiously, they opened their eyes again.

When they looked at the far distance, their eyes narrowed immediately. Disbelief immediately crept up on their faces. It was as though they had just seen something that would be unforgettable in their entire lifetime.

"T-This..." From Cha Bai, Yu Fang, Tian Gu, the Peak Masters of Fire, Water, and Earth Peaks, to the Five Element Sect's disciples like Huang Daniu, Shen Wei, the Nangong Twins, Tan Huan, and Tian Zhen, all of them were staring in bewilderment with their mouths agape.

Goodness!

What did they just witness?!

In the distance, Hong Qing was still there, and the Flaming Saber was still there as well.

However, the great wildfire that accompanied the slicing motion of the Flaming Saber was currently being forced back by a bloodcurdling force that rose up to the sky.

"This..." At the same time, Guo Chong and Qi Yu, who had just

killed Ren Ji, the Sect Leader of Crimson Moon Sect, by joining their forces, happened to witness this scene as well. They were instantly dumbfounded.

Under the watchful eyes of the others, the purple-clad young man merely stood there with his purple robe that looked as though it had transformed into purple flames that were billowing in the light breeze.

At this moment, gusts of khaki energy rose up from around the purple flame, and in the khaki energy, there were streaks of lightning that resembled purple electrical snakes that emitted a threatening aura. Moreover, there was another wave of sharp aura that rose up from the purple flame. From afar, it looked like a gigantic sword that sailed across the sky with tiny star-like and sword-shaped energy around it.

However, none of these caught the crowd's attention. What attracted their attention was the purple-clad young man's hand that was lifted up in the sky. His hand was directly in front of his brows. The blazing Flaming Saber that was so close to him was locked in between two of his fingers.

He had seized the naked blade with just his bare hands!

The Five Element Sect's disciples who were watching from the side instantly felt chills running down from their heads.

"D-Did Senior Brother Ling Tian just took on that blow from Hong Qing's spirit saber with his bare hands?"

"Hong Qing is a Ninth Level Void Interpretation martial artist, and the spirit saber in his hand is a grade two spirit saber! Moreover, he has already comprehended the Ninth Level Intermediate Fire Concept and Second Level Intermediate Saber Concept. When he unleashes his full power, it's equivalent to the strength of more than 440 ancient horned dragons! And yet, it was all blocked by Senior Brother Ling Tian!"

"And it's only with two fingers!"

...

As the Five Element Sect's disciples buried their heads together in heated discussions, many of them could not help but gasp in shock as well.

How powerful was that person who managed to take on a blow that contained the strength of more than 440 ancient horned dragons with his bare hands?

"Look! The Heaven and Earth Phenomenon above Senior Brother Ling Tian is beginning to solidify into form," somebody shouted.

Everyone from the Five Element Sect, including the senior officials, immediately gazed at the space above Duan Ling Tian. The silhouettes of ancient horned dragons that were gathered there reflected in their eyes clearly.

It was a total of 500 silhouettes of ancient horned dragons!

The silhouettes of 500 ancient horned dragons were grouped systematically in the sky. At least, that was what Guo Chong, the Sect Leader of Five Element Sect, and Qi Yu, the Peak Master of Wood Peak, could see.

As powerhouses whose cultivation bases were at the peak of the Void Stage, their eyesights were not something an average person could match.

They could see that the 500 silhouettes of ancient horned dragons were being grouped respectively in this manner — 200, 100,100, and another 100 silhouettes.

"T-This Duan Ling Tian has already broken through to the Void Transformation?" Guo Chong was extremely dumbfounded. He could not help but look at Qi Yu.

"I also have no idea when he managed to break through to the First Level Void Transformation. By right, just with that two spirit fruits alone would not be enough for him to make such a huge leap from the Seventh Level Void Interpretation to the First Level Void Transformation," Qi Yu shook his head. As he reached the end of his sentence, his face became dazed and blank.

"Perhaps... He had some special encounter," Guo Chong's gaze once again turned to the purple robe figure in the distance as he let out a sigh, "I can still accept the fact that he's already at the First Level Void Transformation... However, not only did this little fellow manage to comprehend the Ninth Level Intermediate Thunder Concept, he actually comprehended the Ninth Level Intermediate Earth Concept and Ninth Level Intermediate Saber Concept as well? What an insane power of comprehension!" A wry smile crept up to the corner of Guo Chong's mouth.

"He's a monster through and through!" Qi Yu smiled wryly as well.

Duan Ling Tian, whose hand were shrouded with the First Level Void Transformation's Origin Energy that was merged with the three Ninth Level Void Interpretation Concepts, stared directly into the eyes of Hong Qing. Hong Qing's face had long turned ghastly pale.

Duan Ling Tian asked nonchalantly, "Now... Do you still think I'm bluffing?"

Chapter 929: Hong Qing's Death

"You... You..."

Upon hearing Duan Ling Tian's words, Hong Qing regained his senses. There was fear in his eyes, and he could not even complete his sentence. He desperately tried to retract his spirit saber with all his might, but he realized that the spirit saber that was held in the purple-clad young man's hand felt like it was rooted to the spot. It did not even budge an inch.

"Y-You're a Void Transformation martial artist?" Hong Qing gasped and asked in a trembling voice. He stared at Duan Ling Tian with dread in his eyes.

Duan Ling Tian did not answer Hong Qing. Nobody noticed when but a bright smile had already crept up on Duan Ling Tian's face as he asked rhetorically, "Why? I thought you were going to kill me?"

The bright smile on Duan Ling Tian's face entered Hong Qing's sight. It was exactly like a devil's smile.

A gleam flashed quickly across Hong Qing's pair of terrified eyes. Without any hesitation, he swiftly let go of the spirit saber.

Whoosh!

After Hong Qing abandoned the grade two spirit saber, he immediately turned around and fled. His speed was as fast as lightning.

Although Hong Qing's silhouette got farther and farther away, Duan Ling Tian continued to stand in the same spot with seemingly no plans to give chase at all. The hand that was holding the spirit saber with two fingers were now grasping the spirit saber with his entire palm as he weighed it gently.

"Why didn't Senior Brother Ling Tian chase after him?"

"Could it be that Senior Brother Ling Tian decided to just let him

off like that?"

...

Many of the Five Element Sect's disciples were puzzled.

On the contrary, the senior officials from Five Element Sect fixed their gazes on the spirit saber that was held in Duan Ling Tian's hand as though they were absorbed in their thoughts. That was the second-grade spirit saber left behind by Hong Qing.

Under the watchful eyes of the crowd, Duan Ling Tian proceeded to make his move.

He suddenly lifted the hand that was holding the grade two spirit saber and drew it to the back. Like a giant bow, it was stretched tautly to its limit until the muscles of his back began to slightly quiver.

Very soon, a layer of khaki energy covered the grade two spirit saber and streaks of purple lightning surrounded it. Bursts of sharp aura emitted out of the spirit saber as well.

Whoosh!

The awfully quiet 500 ancient horned dragons silhouettes above Duan Ling Tian suddenly whirled. Another 150 silhouettes of the ancient horned dragons appeared from thin air next to the 500 ancient horned dragons. That was the boost from the grade two spirit saber.

"Kill!"

Duan Ling Tian's gaze turned grave instantly. He hurled the grade two spirit saber in his hand that contained his full strength. Like an arrow that was shot out of a strong bow, its speed was so fast that it was completely astounding.

Whoosh!

The grade two spirit saber swiftly fired out. As it was hurled out, more than 650 silhouettes of ancient horned dragons in the air

charged forward. It was even faster than Hong Qing who had fled in advance.

As Hong Qing was fleeing, he mobilized the Heaven and Earth Energy above his head. 350 silhouettes of ancient horned dragons immediately appeared out of thin air.

At this moment, apart from Duan Ling Tian's full energy, the grade two spirit saber that was hurled out contained an extra boost of energy from the grade two spirit saber itself. It gave the saber a speed that was twice as fast as Hong Qing's.

One could easily imagine the outcome of such a gap in their energy.

In just a short while, the grade two spirit saber caught up to Hong Qing before it pierced his body from behind. The saber entered his body white in color and exited entirely red. It pierced his body cleanly, leaving him dead on the spot.

"Senior Brother Ling Tian is so strong!"

"See, I told you so! How could Senior Brother Ling Tian possibly let Hong Qing go?! It turns out that he could not even be bothered to give chase to Hong Qing himself. All he needed to do was throw the saber out to kill him!"

"Previously, Hong Qing said something about Senior Brother Ling Tian being a Void Transformation martial artist right?"

"When Senior Brother Ling Tian threw the grade two spirit saber earlier, the Heaven and Earth Phenomenon above his head had an additional 150 silhouettes of ancient horned dragons. This means that the energy contained in his Origin Energy is more than 200 ancient horned dragons."

"When the Origin Energy of a First Level Void Transformation martial artist is completely unleashed, it's equivalent to the energy of 200 ancient horned dragons! It seems like Senior Brother Ling Tian is indeed a First Level Void Transformation martial artist now!"

• • •

After discovering that Duan Ling Tian was a First Level Void Transformation martial artist, the Five Element Sect's disciples could not help but be taken aback.

Huang Daniu appeared in front of Duan Ling Tian and sized him up with a gaze that seemed like he was looking at a monster. After a while, he finally asked with a face full of disbelief, "Duan Ling Tian, since when did you make a breakthrough to the Void Transformation?"

He remembered that before they made their journey here, Duan Ling Tian was only at the Ninth Level Void Interpretation.

The journey only took slightly over a month, and Duan Ling Tian managed to have another breakthrough again? And it was all the way to the Void Transformation?"

"Just a few days ago," Duan Ling Tian answered with a faint smile.

Although Duan Ling Tian was caught off guard by his own breakthrough to the Void Transformation a few days ago, he was not surprised at all.

After all, the bottleneck led to the First Level Void Transformation was already very loose before he left the Five Element Sect. He only needed to give it a little push in order to breakthrough.

During this journey, he had used his spare time to cultivate a little, and finally, he managed to complete the breakthrough just a few days back.

The Origin Energy in his body went through a complete transformation like a carp that transformed into a dragon as he swiftly broke through to the First Level Void Transformation in just one leap. "That's right! When Duan Ling Tian cast his attack and mobilized his Heaven and Earth Energy to solidify more than 500 silhouettes of ancient horned dragons earlier, it seemed like he has the Earth Concept other than the Thunder Concept!"

"Not just the Earth Concept, there was the Sword Concept as well!"

"When he unleashed all three Concepts together, the energy is equal to the energy of 300 ancient horned dragons. Senior Brother Ling Tian's strength is indeed appalling!"

...

Very soon, the Five Element Sect's disciples broke out in a heated discussion again.

"Duan Ling Tian!" Hu Fei stared at Duan Ling Tian with endless hatred in his eyes as he stood at a corner inconspicuously. Despite that, a hint of dread could be seen in the depth of his eyes.

Duan Ling Tian's strength managed to elicit shock and fear from the bottom of his heart. He knew that if Duan Ling Tian really wanted to kill him, he would have no way to escape at all.

'Since I can't touch you in the light, I'll make my move in the dark instead! When we arrive at the Martial Emperor's secret treasure, all of the sects' young powerhouses will be entering together! I don't believe you'll be able to defeat everyone!' The corner of Hu Fei's mouth lifted up to form a devilish smile as though he was hit by a realization. A plan to deal with Duan Ling Tian formed in his heart.

He believed that as long as this plan was successfully implemented, Duan Ling Tian would not be able to survive even if he had ten lives!

"Oh?" Duan Ling Tian immediately noticed the poisonous snakelike gaze coming from Hu Fei's direction.

His face turned solemn immediately as a cold gleam flashed

across his eyes. 'This Hu Fei's really like a haunting ghost that's unwilling to leave. I must kill him once I have the opportunity in the Martial Emperor's secret treasure!' Hu Fei made Duan Ling Tian extremely uncomfortable.

This feeling was no different from Zi Shang last time.

Although this kind of person might not be able to do anything to him in the light, it was still hard for Duan Ling Tian to guard against him effectively if this kind of person decided to do anything to him in the dark.

Duan Ling Tian immediately sentenced Hu Fei to death in his heart.

Standing afar, the Nangong Twins' gazes were focused on Duan Ling Tian. Nangong Yi could not help but groan as he cursed out loud, "This Duan Ling Tian's really a freak!"

Of course, there was no malice in his tone at all.

Although Nangong Chen did not speak a word at all, there was still a glimpse of light in his eyes. It was as though Duan Ling Tian was a bright lamp that lit up the direction of his advancement.

"Since this Duan Ling Tian is able to make a breakthrough to the Void Transformation, this means that he must have comprehended at least one Void Transformation Concept!" While the Five Element Sect's disciples were in awe with Duan Ling Tian's strength, the Five Element Sect's senior officials could not help but recall the three Concepts that Duan Ling Tian had demonstrated earlier.

None of the three Concepts was at the Void Transformation Concept. Otherwise, Duan Ling Tian's strength would not merely be at 500 ancient horned dragons.

At this moment, they were hit by a shocking realization.

"Duan Ling Tian is still hiding a Void Transformation Concept!" Cha Bai, Yu Fang, and Tian Gu, the Peak Masters of Fire Peak, Water Peak, and Earth Peak respectively, exchanged glances with each other. Each of them could see the astonishment in each other's eyes.

Cha Bai's face paled instantly from the shock.

In the end, he took a deep breath as though he had made up his mind about something.

"Hu Fei!" He immediately looked at his direct disciple, Hu Fei, and said with a grave voice through Voice Transmission, "From this moment onwards, forget about all the enmity between you and Duan Ling Tian! You must not provoke him!"

Hu Fei, who was still proud of his own plan, was stunned for a while when he heard the Voice Transmission from Cha Bai.

Before he had time to respond, Cha Bai's voice continued to enter his ear, "I suspect that this Duan Ling Tian is still hiding his true strength when he launched his attack earlier. He may well have comprehended another Void Transformation Concept."

Void Transformation Concept!

Hu Fei blanched the moment he heard Cha Bai's words, "V-Void Transformation Concept?"

At first, Hu Fei was still skeptical. He thought that his master had made a mistake.

However, after listening to Cha Bai's explanation, he had no choice but to believe it even if he did not wish to believe it.

"Yes, Master. I won't take the initiative to provoke him next time," Hu Fei replied Cha Bai after he took a deep breath.

All the same, he had another idea in his mind despite his reply. 'Duan Ling Tian, so what if you have comprehended the Void Transformation Concept? At that time when you become the target for all in the Martial Emperor's secret treasure, you'll still die in the end!'

As he thought of this, a hint of coldness flashed in the depth of his eyes as if he was about to devour a certain somebody.

Asking him to let Duan Ling Tian walk away just like that?

Impossible!

Unless he died first.

Naturally, Cha Bai was not privy to Hu Fei's thoughts. The moment he heard Hu Fei's promise, he let out a sigh of relief.

He knew that right now, let alone his disciple, Hu Fei, even he would have to think twice before provoking the current Duan Ling Tian unless he was sure he could kill Duan Ling Tian to remove the cause of future troubles! Otherwise, what was waiting for him ahead would be an endless revenge from Duan Ling Tian.

"Duan Ling Tan, you really hide them well!"

The two figures disappeared into thin air above the sky and reappeared again near Duan Ling Tian. Guo Chong scrutinized Duan Ling Tian.

"Hold it!"

At this time, Qi Yu, who was standing next to Guo Chong, threw out two streaks of lights with just a flick of his hand. It went all the way to Duan Ling Tian.

Duan Ling Tian hastily reached out a hand to catch it. When he looked down, he noticed that they were actually two Concept Fragments.

Two Concept Fragments, one was blue, and one was purple. It shone with deep intense color, and it was obvious that their levels were not low.

"Are these the two Concept fragments from the Sect Leader of Crimson Moon Sect, Ren Ji?" Duan Ling Tian's eyes lit up instantly, and his breathing quickened as well.

Chapter 930: The Empyrean Temple's Abbot

Ren Ji, the Sect Leader of Crimson Moon Sect, was a powerhouse at the peak of the Void Stage who had comprehended the Ninth Level Advance Wind Concept and the Ninth Level Advance Thunder Concept.

For this reason, the two Concept Fragments in his body were Ninth Level Wind Concept Fragment and Ninth Level Thunder Concept Fragment. Both were top-ranking Concept fragments that could also be considered as treasures!

Just with these two Concept Fragments, Duan Ling Tian could raise his Wind and Thunder Concepts to the Ninth Level Advance Stage in no time.

At that time, he would be able to comprehend the Profundity with just one more step.

"Thank you, Peak Master!" Duan Ling Tian immediately thanked Qi Yu. After all, this surprise was too huge indeed.

Meanwhile, when the three other Peak Masters and the disciples from the Five Element Sect shifted their gazes toward Duan Ling Tian, there was an additional hint of envy and jealousy.

That was two Ninth Level Concept Fragments after all!

Even the Five Element Sect only had a few pieces of the Concept Fragment in their collection. However, Duan Ling Tian alone currently possessed two of them.

However, none of them said anything about it even though they were envious.

Put aside the fact that those were Qi Yu's loot so it was entirely up to him how he wanted to distribute them, even if the loots were owned by the sect, just from the strength that Duan Ling Tian had demonstrated earlier that far surpassed the rest of Five Element Sect's disciples, made him more than qualified to be given the two Concept Fragments by the sect.

"Junior Brother Qi Yu, you hid your strength even better than Duan Ling Tian did. If you had told me earlier that you've already reached the peak of the Void Stage, there'd be no need for me to fear Ren Ji at all earlier," Guo Chong, the Sect Leader of Five Element Sect lamented as he shifted his glance from Duan Ling Tian and stared at Qi Yu who was standing next to him.

If he had known earlier that Qi Yu was a powerhouse at the peak of the Void Stage earlier, he would certainly be very eager to launch an attack when Crimson Moon Sect made their appearance.

As one of the three major forces in the eastern district of the northern desert, the enmity between Five Element Sect and Crimson Moon Sect had endured for thousands of years.

The two major sects were always thinking about annihilating each other all the time. However, none of them had been able to truly win due to their strengths being equal.

Now that Qi Yu had comprehended two kinds of Ninth Level Void Transformation Concepts and possessed the strength at the peak of the Void Stage, the balance between the two major forces had been thrown off.

The two powerhouses who were at the peak of the Void Stage from Five Element Sect joined forces and easily annihilated Ren Ji, the Sect Leader of Crimson Moon Sect. Moreover, they had also killed the three Vice Sect Leaders of Crimson Moon Sect.

Upon hearing Guo Chong's words, everybody from Five Element Sect simultaneously shifted their attention from Duan Ling Tian to Qi Yu as if they had planned for it beforehand.

At this moment, Qi Yu became the focus of attention of the crowd instead.

"I didn't expect Peak Master Qi Yu to be so powerful!"

"From now on, Peak Master Qi Yu is no longer the second

strongest person in our Five Element Sect. Instead, he's a powerhouse who can stand side by side with the Sect Leader and a person who's competent enough to be known as the strongest powerhouse in the Five Element Sect along with the Sect Leader!"

"How unlucky those Crimson Moon Sect's people were! Especially that Ren Ji, the Sect Leader of Crimson Moon Sect, who provoked our Five Element Sect from the very beginning. He was fearless thinking that he had a strong support! The expression on his face the moment he found out that Peak Master Qi Yu is also a powerhouse at the peak of the Void Stage is still clearly etched in my mind!"

"I saw it as well... That expression was of utter horror and fear! I'm pretty sure he regretted provoking us at the moment he was dying."

"Now that the Sect Leader of Crimson Moon Sect is dead, Crimson Moon Sect would cease to exist except in name... After we return from the Martial Emperor's secret treasure, Sect Leader and the rest will definitely wipe Crimson Moon Sect's name off Cloud Continent completely!"

• • •

Each and every one of the Five Element Sect's disciples erupted in an uproar. Excitement and elation were apparent in between their brows as they continued to discuss animatedly.

"The peak of the Void Stage!" The gazes of those people who stared at Qi Yu were filled with idolization.

The other three Peak Masters of Five Element Sect, Cha Bai, Yu Fang, and Tian Gu, looked at Qi Yu with a complicated look in their eyes. It did not cross their minds that Qi Yu possessed such a terrifying strength.

The moment they recalled how they treated Wood Peak previously, they could not help but break out in cold sweat.

It was fortunate that Qi Yu did not fuss and bother with them. Otherwise, they would not be able to defeat him even if the three of them joined forces!

A powerhouse at the peak of Void Stage was just too appalling. After all, it meant that he already had half his foot in the Martial Monarch Stage!

Yu Fang cast a glance at Cha Bai and Tian Gu before she said to them with Voice Transmission, "Both of the Ninth Void Transformation Concepts that Qi Yu comprehended are Water and Fire Concepts. Even if none of the sect's disciples managed to obtain any Profundity Fragment from the Martial Emperor's secret treasure, it would not take him long to make a breakthrough to the Martial Monarch Stage."

Upon hearing her reminder, Cha Bai and Tian Gu were hit by the realization.

When Qi Yu was battling with Ren Ji, the Sect Leader of Crimson Moon Sect, he indeed demonstrated the Ninth Level Advance Water Concept and Ninth Level Advance Fire Concept.

"Perhaps he would be able to break through to the Martial Monarch Stage a step earlier than the Sect Leader to become a Martial Monarch powerhouse!" Tian Gu gasped in surprise.

"Peak Master Qi Yu, congratulations!" Yu Fang and Tian Gu exchanged glances before looking at Qi Yu simultaneously and congratulated him. They congratulated him for possessing the strength at the peak of the Void Stage.

Even Cha Bai, the Peak Master of Fire Peak who was usually incompatible with Qi Yu, had also put down his ego and congratulated Qi Yu, "Congratulations!"

From his words, it was obvious that he had decided to submit.

"Hahaha.... Hu Fei, look at your own grave expression! Do you regret betraying our Wood Peak now?" Suddenly, a laughter rang

out in the silence. It was none other than Huang Daniu who was standing afar as he looked at Hu Fei who had a solemn expression on his face.

Hu Fei's face darkened immediately as he glared fiercely at Huang Daniu for exposing his thoughts in front of so many people. Despite that, he did not dare to retort at all.

Put aside the fact that Huang Daniu and Duan Ling Tian were on friendly terms with each other, he did not even dare to provoke Huang Daniu alone.

Although Huang Daniu needed to borrow Earth Energy during the Battle of the Five Peaks, the current Huang Daniu could easily defeat him even without the Earth Energy.

After coming out of the Profound Assimilation Formation, Huang Daniu had already comprehended the Ninth Level Advance Earth Concept, and he even displayed a strength that was not in any way inferior to himself when he was battling Crimson Moon Sect's people earlier.

He knew that the current Huang Daniu could easily defeat him even without the use of Earth Energy.

"Duan Ling Tian!" When Hu Fei felt the mocking gazes from the surroundings shifted to himself, his face turned grave immediately. His pair of icy eyes glared at Duan Ling Tian who was standing afar. Until now, he still held Duan Ling Tian responsible for his lack of progress in the Profound Assimilation Formation.

When Duan Ling Tian noticed Hu Fei's glare, he could vaguely figure out his thoughts. Duan Ling Tian looked at him coldly as his Voice Transmission pierced sharply through Hu Fei's ears, "Idiot!"

"YOU!!" Hu Fei's face was ashen. Flustered and exasperated, his organs became agitated and with a "Barf!", he spat out a mouthful of blood.

"Why did Hu Fei spit out blood suddenly?"

"He must be regretting his decision after seeing the strength that Peak Master Qi Yu demonstrated and the compelling dominance that Wood Peak displays..."

"It seems like he's mad at himself for making such foolish choice last time!"

"What's the point of being mad now? An ungrateful bastard will always be an ungrateful bastard."

• • •

Although the Five Element Sect's disciples were discussing this under their breaths, they did not bother lowering their voices. For this reason, each and every word was heard by Hu Fei clearly. Once again, he was so mad that he spat out another mouthful of blood.

When Guo Chong noticed Cha Bai's ashen face, he helped alleviate the atmosphere and called out to everyone before taking the lead to fly forward, "Let us continue our journey!"

Everyone from Five Element Sect immediately followed closely behind him.

"We're not there yet?" After flying for a period of time, Duan Ling Tian frowned as he looked at a hill under his feet.

An astonished voice rang by Duan Ling Tian's ears suddenly. One of the Five Element Sect's disciple cried out while he pointed to the front, "Eh? There are many people there! Could it be that the Martial Emperor's secret treasure is actually there?" His voice was filled with excitement.

Upon hearing this, many of the Five Element Sect's disciples, including Duan Ling Tian, looked in the direction he was staring at.

After passing by a towering mountainous forest, a gigantic valley appeared before their eyes. Two groups of people were hovering above the valley.

Similar to Five Element Sect, both groups had about twenty over people.

"There's a group of baldies there!"

"Could they be the people from the Empyrean Temple, one of the four major forces in the southern district of the northern desert?"

"Only the Empyrean Temple in the entire northern desert has so many bald monks!"

• • •

When Duan Ling Tian noticed the group of people who were made up of many kasaya-wearing monks with dots on their heads, many of the Five Element Sect's disciples had already spoken out.

"The Empyrean Temple... Hui Ming, Hui Jing, and that little monk as well!" Very soon, Duan Ling Tian discovered three familiar figures in the group of people that were made up of 50% bald monks. They were none other than the three Empyrean Temple monks that he encountered in Skywolf Fort previously.

"Abbot Hui Kong, it has been a long time since we last met. How are you doing?" The Five Element Sect party flew in and attracted the Empyrean Temple's and the other group's attention. Guo Chong immediately looked in the direction of the Empyrean Temple, his gaze landed on the old monk who led the group.

The old monk had nine dots on his scalp. He appeared kind and benevolent with his two white brows. He was Abbot Hui Kong from the Empyrean Temple.

The Abbot of the Empyrean Temple was also the highest leader in the Empyrean Temple.

"Amitabha... Sect Leader Guo, greetings to you too," Hui Kong replied as he narrowed his eyes to look at Guo Chong. All ten of his fingers were linked together, he was extremely attentive to his ethics.

"Duan Ling Tian?" At this moment, a cry resonated among the people of the Empyrean Temple. It attracted the attention of many people.

Everyone saw a monk disciple who was not bald among the Empyrean Temple's temple. He was staring at a particular person clad in purple among the Five Element Sect's disciples.

"Senior Brother Ling Tian is known among the Empyrean Temple as well?"

Many of the Five Element Sect disciples marveled, "Whoa! Senior Brother Ling Tian is indeed extraordinary! Even the Empyrean Temple from the far southern district of the northern desert knows him too!"

Chapter 931: Sun Moon Sect

When Duan Ling Tian realized someone who was not Hui Ming, Hui Jing nor that little monk, had called out his name, he could not contain the curiosity in his heart as he cast a glance at the source of the voice.

With just a glance, he could immediately discern that the figure was familiar. It was a figure that he had seen before.

"Ou Chen?" The moment Duan Ling Tian saw this young man standing among the Empyrean Temple's people, he lifted his brows as he finally recalled the identity of this monk disciple from the Empyrean Temple.

He was Ou Chen, the strongest youth in the Darchu Dynasty whom he had met once during the Martial Competition of the Ten Dynasties previously. He could still remember clearly that after the Martial Competition had ended, Ou Chen was the first person among the young talents from the Ten Great Dynasties who chose to join the Empyrean Temple.

At this moment, he could not help but feel a wave of affection meeting someone who used to be one of the young talents in the Ten Great Dynasties.

"Duan Ling Tian?" Ou Chen's cry also shocked Hui Ming, Hui Jing and the young monk standing next to them. For a moment, their eyes also fell on Duan Ling Tian.

They were rather surprised to see Duan Ling Tian among the group of Five Element Sect's people.

As far as they knew, Duan Ling Tian seemed to have joined the Blade Sect after the Martial Competition of the Ten Dynasties had ended. By right, he should have made his appearance together with the Blade Sect's people.

However, Duan Ling Tian had arrived on the scene before the

Blade Sect's people. Moreover, it was with the Five Element Sect's people. They also knew that Five Element Sect was one of the three major forces in the eastern district of the northern desert. They were very clear about this.

"Duan Ling Tian, we meet again," a familiar Voice Transmission suddenly sounded in Duan Ling Tian's ears.

Duan Ling Tian could tell immediately that the voice belonged to the young monk standing next to Hui Ming and Hui Jing.

"That's right, we meet again! However, I still have no idea how I should address you."

"I'm Xuan Bei," the young monk continued to use his Voice Transmission to converse with Duan Ling Tian.

"Xuan Bei? I'll keep that in mind," Duan Ling Tian replied again.

"Don't forget, you and I still have a promise that we've not fulfilled," Xuan Bei voiced out again.

"Of course I remember," Duan Ling Tian responded.

He still remembered when they were at the Martial Competition of the Ten Dynasties, this Xuan Bei had challenged him to a battle. At that time, he had accepted the challenge instantly without giving it much thought.

However, the challenge had yet to be carried out until now.

"That's great!" Xuan Bei nodded his head in satisfaction.

When most of the people had their attention on Duan Ling Tian, a loud voice suddenly resonated and took many of them by surprise, "So, you're Little Benefactor Duan. I've been looking forward to meeting you."

It was none other than Hui Kong, the Abbot of Empyrean Temple. He looked at Duan Ling Tian and greeted him with his ten fingers interlocked.

"You flatter me, Abbot." When Duan Ling Tian saw that Hui

Kong, the leader of one of the four dignified major forces in the eastern district of the northern desert, took the initiative to greet him, he was not surprised even though he was a little taken aback.

It seemed like Hui Ming and Hui Jing had told Hui Kong everything about him.

In Hui Ming's and Hui Jing's eyes, he was a Variant who could utilize his innate ability. Be it his talent or strength, they were both far superior to other ordinary martial artists.

Hui Kong must have greeted him solely because he was a Variant.

The fact that Ou Chen greeted Duan Ling Tian only took a few people by surprise. However, when Hui Kong took the initiative to greet Duan Ling Tian and even said, "I've long been looking forward to meeting you", it completely stunned everyone present.

After all, who the hell was Hui Kong?

He was the Abbot of Empyrean Temple, a powerhouse who was already at the peak of the Void Stage.

However, at this moment, such a person had taken the initiative to greet a Five Element Sect's disciple who looked barely 25 years old. They were completely flabbergasted by this.

Even Guo Chong, the Sect Leader of Five Element Sect, could not contain his bewilderment as well.

He knew this old monk Hui Kong very well. He knew that it was absolutely impossible for Hui Kong to take the initiative to greet a person whom he did not have a good opinion of. In other words, Duan Ling Tian had a special place in Hui Kong's eyes.

Guo Chong could not contain his curiosity so he asked Hui Kong, "Abbot Hui Kong, you've heard of Duan Ling Tian?"

"Yes." Hui Kong nodded his head faintly before he continued, "Although I've no idea how Little Benefactor Duan joined Five Element Sect, Five Element Sect will be even more powerful with

Little Benefactor Duan's help! Congratulations, Sect Leader Guo!"

"Haha... You have good eyes, Abbot Hui Kong!" Upon hearing his words, Guo Chong burst out laughing immediately. To be honest, he had quite some faith in Duan Ling Tian's strength.

At this moment, if Duan Ling Tian claimed to be the second strongest young powerhouse in Five Element Sect, nobody would dare to claim the number one spot at all.

Without a doubt, there were many people from the Empyrean Temple who were staring at Duan Ling Tian with a perplexed look as well.

They really could not figure out why a young man who seemed to be only about 25 years old was worthy enough to garner such bizarre praise and recognition from their Empyrean Temple's Abbot.

"Did the Abbot make a mistake?"

"Just him alone will make the Five Element Sect more powerful?"

• • •

Many of the monk disciples from Empyrean Temple buried their heads together to discuss the matter as they expressed their suspicion.

"Hurmph! This Five Element Sect and Empyrean Temple! It seems like the both of you really have a lack in people recently. Just a little kid who's barely 25 years old could also be called a treasure? How ridiculous!" A derisive snort that was neither loud nor faint resonated from the other group in the distance.

Upon hearing the words, everyone from Five Element Sect and Empyrean Temple, including Duan Ling Tian, shifted their attention to the source of the voice. It turned out that the voice belonged to the person who was the leader of the group. It was an old man who was fully clothed in black.

The old man's face was aloof, and it was accompanied by a pair of sharp intense eyes. His eyes were cold, and it filled others with dread to look him in the eyes.

Similar to that old man, the other four old men standing behind him and the rest of the twenty young men and women were also fully clothed in black. Furthermore, each and every one of them was also wearing a badge that was pinned on their chests.

The man leading the group had a badge with the design of a blazing sun while the four old men standing behind him in a row had badges with the design of a moon on their chests.

As for the remaining twenty young men and women, the design on their badges was a star.

"The Sun Moon Sect? One of the two major forces in the western district of the northern desert?" Guo Chong muttered under his breath after he saw the clothing worn by that group of people. His gaze landed on the old man who was leading the group before he asked, "You must be the Sect Leader of Sun Moon Sect, right?"

"That's right, it's me!" The old man replied nonchalantly.

"How should I address you, Sect Leader?" Guo Chong asked again.

"Chen Feng," the old man replied, slightly impatient.

"Sect Leader Chen Feng." Guo Chong nodded before he asked again, "Earlier, did you say that Five Element Sect are lacking people?"

"Hurmph!' Chen Feng snorted and answered with disdain, "Well, isn't that the case? Just a little kid and you people from Five Element Sect and Empyrean Temple are treating him as a treasure? In our Sun Moon Sect, a disciple at that age has no qualifications to leave the sect at all!"

Guo Chong narrowed his eyes. A smirk crept up the corner of his mouth as he asked directly, "A little kid? It seems like you look down on our disciple, Sect Leader Chen Feng. I wonder how many

of your twenty young disciples can win against him?"

Upon hearing Guo Chong's words, Duan Ling Tian shook his head and smiled.

He knew that the Sect Leader wanted to use him as cannon fodder to teach the Sect Leader and the disciples of the Sun Moon Sect a lesson.

Although he was not fond of being used as a cannon fodder, he did not know why he was not completely averse to it this time. In fact, he was kind of looking forward to it. Perhaps it was because Chen Feng, the Sect Leader of Sun Moon Sect, used him as a mean to provoke Five Element Sect and Empyrean Temple earlier

"Win against him?" Upon hearing Guo Chong's words, Chen Feng looked at Duan Ling Tian and sized him up before he burst out in a fit of laughter. "Just this little kid alone? Sun Moon Sect can simply send out any one of our young disciples, and it'll be more than enough to defeat him!"

Guo Chong's narrowed eyes suddenly opened wide. The smile on his face grew even wider as he openly asked, "In that case, shall we try?"

"Eh?" Guo Chong's boldness immediately took Chen Feng by surprise. He began to get an indistinct feeling that something was not right.

"Why? Sect Leader Chen Feng, don't tell me that you don't dare to give it go?" Guo Chong flashed a mocking smile.

"Who said I dare not?!" Chen Feng was immediately angered by Guo Chong. He immediately turned towards a Sun Moon Sect's disciple and said coldly, "Lu Kai! Come out and fight against this little kid from Five Element Sect!"

The disciple who was called out was a young man who appeared to be around 35 years old. He had a slender figure and an aloof face. Coupled with his black clothing, he gave off an aura of coldness.

"Yes." Upon hearing Chen Feng's words, Lu Kai responded and stepped out without any hesitation. The pair of emotionless eyes locked onto Duan Ling Tian immediately.

"Huh?" Duan Ling Tian's face darkened a little. Just a glance from the opponent was enough to make him feel as though he had fallen into a thaw hole. It was apparent that he possessed extraordinary strength.

In the next moment, Duan Ling Tian extended his Spiritual Energy and quickly probed his opponent's cultivation base.

The Ninth Level Void Interpretation!

It did not cross Duan Ling Tian's mind that Chen Feng would be so cautious. Although it was just the beginning, he had instantly asked his disciple who was at the Ninth Level Void Interpretation to battle him.

With the strength that this young disciple possessed, he was most likely one of the best among the twenty disciples of Sun Moon Sect.

Whoosh!

Under the watchful eyes of the others, Duan Ling Tian flew out and stood directly opposite Lu Kai. His calm face did not betray any emotions at all.

At this moment, be it the Five Element Sect's or the Empyrean Temple's or the Sun Moon Sect's disciples, every one of them was staring intently at the two men who were locked in a stalemate. They were filled with anticipation for the battle between the two of them.

When Guo Chong saw Duan Ling Tian and Lu Kai were ready to battle, Guo Chong looked at Chen Feng and asked, "Sect Leader Chen Feng, today's the first time we're meeting each other... Since our disciples are about to compete with each other, you and I should take out some prize as a betting wager, don't you think?"

Upon hearing Guo Chong's words, Chen Feng smirked and agreed, "Now you're talking!"

With a raise of his hand, a fragment that emitted a sharp aura of a sword appeared in his hand instantly. "This is a Ninth Level Sword Concept Fragment. It'll be the betting wager for my Sun Moon Sect!"

Chapter 932: I'll Bet Against You Myself!

The Ninth Level Sword Concept Fragment!

The moment they heard Chen Feng's words and saw the Concept Fragment in his hand, many of the Five Element Sect's and Empyrean Temple's people were shocked to the core.

They did not think that the Sect Leader of Sun Moon Sect would have such a great deal of courage. With their status, a Ninth Level Concept Fragment was considered extremely valuable.

After all, their status was nothing but a third-rate force in the Cloud Continent, and the strongest among them only had a comprehension at the Ninth Level Void Transformation Concept.

The Ninth Level Concept Fragment in their hands was either left behind by their deceased seniors or obtained by killing a martial artist who had comprehended the Ninth Level Void Transformation Concept.

For a third-rate force, it was not a simple matter for them to kill someone who had comprehended the Ninth Level Void Transformation Concept.

— and, right now, Chen Feng, the Sect Leader of Sun Moon Sect had taken out a Ninth Level Sword Concept Fragment to be the betting wager for the battle between Lu Kai, the disciple of Sun Moon Sect, and Duan Ling Tian, the disciple of Five Element Sect.

If Duan Ling Tian won the battle, he would have to give the Ninth Level Sword Concept Fragment to the Five Element Sect.

When Guo Chong saw Chen Feng took out a Ninth Level Sword Concept Fragment as the betting wager, the Sect Leader of Five Element Sect's face instantly lit up from the surprise. He could not help but exclaim out loud in astonishment, "That's so cool of you, Sect Leader Chen Feng!"

"How is it? Sect Leader Guo, are you satisfied with the wager that

I took out?" When Chen Feng saw the astonished look on Guo Chong's face, he thought that Guo Chong was taken aback by the wager. A hint of disdain could be seen in his eyes.

"Stingy!" Before Guo Chong could even open his mouth, a brazen voice broke the silence by calling Chen Feng, the Sect Leader of Sun Moon Sect, stingy.

Stingy?

Taking out a Ninth Level Concept Fragment as a wager was stingy?

Who was this person who was so high handed?

All the eyes from the three forces immediately shifted towards the source of the voice.

They saw a young man fully clad in purple. It was none other than Duan Ling Tian.

"Did Duan Ling Tian just call the Sect Leader of Sun Moon Sect stingy?" Many of the Empyrean Temple's people's eyes widened in shock. Disbelief was clearly written on their faces.

In their opinion, let alone a mere Five Element Sect's disciple, even the Sect Leader of Five Element Sect would find the Ninth Level Concept Fragment to be an extraordinary object.

Even the Sect Leader of the Five Element Sect did not dare to call a person who put up a Ninth Level Concept Fragment as a wager stingy.

"Is Duan Ling Tian crazy? That's a freaking Ninth Level Concept Fragment for God's sake!"

"I think he said that deliberately to make things difficult for the Sect Leader of Sun Moon Sect. No matter what wager the Sect Leader of Sun Moon Sect takes out, he will still call the Sect Leader stingy so he can use it as an excuse to withdraw from the battle."

"This Duan Ling Tian from Five Element Sect is too sinister if

that's true."

• • •

Many of the Empyrean Temple's monk disciples whispered to one another. Although their voices were not too loud, everyone present at the scene could still hear their words.

The Five Element Sect's disciples merely snorted at the words by the Empyrean Temple's people. They were not bothered by the words at all.

They were very clear about Duan Ling Tian's strength. They knew that it was absolutely impossible for him to retreat in the face of a disciple from Sun Moon Sect, let alone retreating with such an indirect method.

"What is Duan Ling Tian doing? That's a freaking Ninth Level Concept Fragment that the Sect Leader of Sun Moon Sect took out! How could he call him stingy?" Huang Daniu, Nangong Yi, Tan Huan, Tian Zhen and the other exchanged glances and saw the same suspicion in each other's eyes.

The Peak Masters of Fire, Water, and Earth Peaks also had the same doubtful look on their faces.

Only Qi Yu, the Peak Master of Wood Peak, had a knowing smile playing on the corner of his mouth. It was as though he already knew what Duan Ling Tian planned to do next. "This little guy is quite greedy, huh?"

Guo Chong, on the other hand, was stunned into silence for a moment before being hit by a realization. He did not say anything else as he stared intensely at Duan Ling Tian's back.

"How ridiculous! How dare you call our Sect Leader stingy? That's a Ninth Level Concept Fragment for goodness sake! I think this must be the first time you've seen one. Is that the case, you little boy!" Many of the Sun Moon Sect's disciples finally regained their senses and glared at Duan Ling Tian as they mocked him.

"Well, if you're that capable, why don't you come up with a Ninth Level Concept Fragment too? Or you know, some other things that are even more valuable... Otherwise, you're just a coward who's afraid of battling Senior Brother Lu Kai!"

"You're asking him to take out a Ninth Level Concept Fragment? I don't think he'll be able to take any out even if we kill him!"

"In my opinion, he's afraid of Senior Brother Lu Kai, that's why he's trying to find an excuse to avoid a battle with Senior Brother Lu Kai."

• • •

A group of Sun Moon Sect's disciples broke into a clamor of discussion. From their words, it was obvious that they scorned Duan Ling Tian, the disciple of Five Element Sect.

In their opinions, how good could he be even if he was wildly talented and had a high comprehension when he was only 25 years old?

Chen Feng raised his hand, and the group of Sun Moon Sect's disciple finally quieted down. However, the gazes that were trained on Duan Ling Tian were still filled with disdain that originated from the bottom of their hearts.

Chen Feng narrowed his eyes as he glared at Duan Ling Tian. He asked in a deep voice, "Did you just call me stingy?"

"Isn't that so?" Duan Ling Tian seemed oblivious to the Sun Moon Sect's disciples' mocking. Now that he had heard Chen Feng's question, he answered as a matter of course, "A dignified Sect Leader of Sun Moon Sect merely took out a Ninth Level Concept Fragment as a betting wager. Don't you think that you're stingy?"

"Hurmph!" A sharp gleam flashed across Chen Feng's eyes. With a snort, he replied, "This Ninth Level Concept Fragment in my hand is just the first wager. If Sect Leader Guo finds this inadequate, I can add more wager on top of this."

"Of course it's not enough!" The moment the words left Chen Feng's mouth, Duan Ling Tian immediately replied, "Let alone our Sect Leader, even a nobody like me feels that the betting wager that you took out is not enough."

"You've said so yourself that you're a nobody. You think you can represent the Sect Leader of Five Element Sect?" Chen Feng snorted.

"Naturally, I can't represent our Sect Leader, but I can bet against you myself!" Duan Ling Tian lifted his brow as he said this word for word.

"You? Betting against me on your own?" Upon hearing Duan Ling Tian's words, Chen Feng could not suppress his bewilderment.

"Hahahaha.... That's so funny! This little boy from the Five Element Sect said that he wants to bet against our Sect Leader on his own!"

"Does he really think that Ninth Level Concept Fragments are so easy to come by?"

"At first, he said that our Sect Leader is stingy. Now, he said that he wants to bet against our Sect Leader on his own! I'd like to see for myself what exactly he'll use as a wager to bet against the Sect Leader."

• • •

The Sun Moon Sect's disciples broke into an uproar once again. Each of them was looking at Duan Ling Tian with a sneer as they waited for him to make a fool of himself.

"This Duan Ling Tian is crazy!"

"If he can't take out anything better than the Ninth Level Sword Concept Fragment, he'll only embarrass himself!"

"He'll definitely make a fool out of himself!"

. . .

The monk disciples from the Empyrean Temple shook their heads while they threw pitiful glances at Duan Ling Tian.

Hui Kong, the Abbot of Empyrean Temple, stood by the side and stared at Duan Ling Tian kindly. Even when Duan Ling Tian had boasted, he did not seem surprised at all.

On the other hand, many of the disciples from Five Element Sect were smiling.

Although they did not know much about what was going on, they knew that Duan Ling Tian really had no lack of Ninth Level Concept Fragments. Just a short while ago, he had just obtained two fragments that originated from the recently killed Ren Ji, the Sect Leader of Crimson Moon Sect.

"That's right! I'll bet against you myself!" Duan Ling Tian nodded his head solemnly as he stared directly into Chen Feng's eyes.

"Lad, do you know the value of this Ninth Level Sword Concept Fragment in my hand? I can tell you that not everything can compare to the worth of this Concept Fragment." Chen Feng sneered as he toyed with the fragment in his hand.

"Well, I don't know much, but I know that the value of these two added together is definitely worth more than that Ninth Level Sword Concept Fragment in your hand!" In the face of Chen Feng's sneer, Duan Ling Tian still remained calm. With a lift of his hand, two fragments appeared in his palm, one was blue, and the other was purple.

Be it the blue or purple fragment, the colors were remarkably abstruse. It emitted an aura that made people shiver in fear.

"Sect Leader Chen Feng, what do you think?" Duan Ling Tian smiled faintly as he toyed with the two fragments in his hand.

Just at the moment when Chen Feng's gaze landed on the Concept Fragments in Duan Ling Tian's hand, the few Vice Sect Leaders of Sun Moon Sect standing next to Chen Feng turned pale instantly as they cried out.

"The Ninth Level Wind Concept Fragment!"

"The Ninth Level Thunder Concept Fragment!"

On the Empyrean Temple's side, Hui Jing could not help but gasp. He said in a hoarse voice, "It really is the Ninth Level Wind Concept Fragment, and the Ninth Level Thunder Concept Fragment!"

Earlier, he could feel cold sweat forming when he saw Duan Ling Tian's licentious conduct. He thought that Duan Ling Tian would make a fool of himself before the public's eyes.

However, he realized at this moment that Duan Ling Tian dared to do that earlier because he was completely confident in himself. He could clearly see this from the two Ninth Level Concept Fragments that he casually took out.

"T-Those really are two Ninth Level Concept Fragments?"

The Sun Moon Sect's disciples' mocking faces froze up completely in an instant. One by one, their faces turned red as though they had been choked. They did not utter a single word at all for a long time.

"My Lord! Who is this Duan Ling Tian? How is it possible that he just casually took out two Ninth Level Concept Fragments?"

"Is he the Sect Leader of Five Element Sect's illegitimate son or something?"

"How exactly did the Ninth Level Concept Fragments come into his possession?"

...

Each and every one of the monk disciples from Empyrean Temple was staring at the two Concept Fragments in Duan Ling Tian's palm with their red eyes. How they wished they could reach out and snatch them away from him.

On the other hand, the people from Five Element Sect appeared calm and collected.

'This Duan Ling Tian actually chose this time to take out the two Ninth Level Concept Fragments. He wouldn't scam another Ninth Level Concept Fragment from the Sect Leader of Sun Moon Sect, would he?' Huang Daniu was stunned, but he could faintly guess his intention.

There were undoubtedly many other people who had the same thought as him. For example, the Peak Masters of Water, Fire, and Earth, the Nangong Twins, Tan Huan, Tian Zhen and the rest.

'Duan Ling Tian, you want to scam the Sect Leader of Sun Moon Sect huh? I'll make sure you won't be able to do as you wish!' A light flashed across Hu Fei's eyes as a sneer appeared by the corner of his mouth.

Chapter 933: An Extravagant Gamble

"Sect Leader Chen Feng, since I'm taking out two pieces of Ninth Level Concept Fragments as betting wagers for the battle between your Sun Moon Sect's disciple, Lu Kai and I, don't you think you should take another Ninth Level Concept Fragment out as well?" Duan Ling Tian stared at Chen Feng as he enunciated every single one of his words distinctly.

Chen Feng's face turned somber immediately as soon as he regained his senses.

It did not cross his mind that the purple-clad young man before him would be able to take out two Ninth Level Concept Fragments. Moreover, he wanted to bet with Chen Feng on his own by using the two Ninth Level Concept Fragments as the betting wager.

Naturally, he was not a fool seeing as he was the leader of Sun Moon Sect.

Since the other party dared to make such a bet and was willing to take out two Ninth Level Concept Fragments as the wager, he must be very confident in himself.

Chen Feng was instantly caught in between a rock and a hard place.

It was not difficult for him to take out another Ninth Level Concept Fragment. However, if the purple-clad young man won the battle, not only would Sun Moon Sect embarrass themselves, they would lose two Ninth Level Concept Fragments as well.

He took out the Ninth Level Concept Fragment earlier because he was confident his sect would definitely win the battle. He wanted to use his Ninth Level Concept Fragment to win another Ninth Level Concept Fragment from the hands of the Sect Leader of Five Element Sect.

However, the subsequent development of the matter was beyond

his expectation.

First, the purple-clad young man before him called him stingy and actually stepped forward to bet with Chen Feng independently. On top of that, he wanted to use two Ninth Level Concept Fragments as the betting wager.

He had to admit that he was a little hesitant when he saw the confident look on the other party's face.

Although he refused to believe that a young man at such a young age could defeat Lu Kai, his Sun Moon Sect's disciple who was at the Ninth Level Void Interpretation Stage, he immediately became very cautious the moment he recalled that the matter involved two Ninth Level Concept Fragments.

"What now? Sect Leader Chen Feng, don't tell me you dare not bet?" Duan Ling Tian saw through Chen Feng's thoughts when he saw him hesitating. Duan Ling Tian deliberately raised his voice so that everyone could hear him clearly as he burst into a fit of laughter. When he reached the end of his sentence, a contemptuous smirk could be seen playing on the corner of his mouth.

Dare not bet?

Chen Feng became enraged the moment he heard Duan Ling Tian's words and noticed the gazes around him.

However, it seemed like his rage was immediately put out by a splash cold water as he turned calm and collected without any warning.

He knew that the other party was using the provocation tactic to goad him into accepting the bet!

At this moment, a Voice Transmission suddenly resounded in his ears from afar.

"Sect Leader Chen Feng, you mustn't agree to this bet with Duan Ling Tian! Don't be fooled by his appearance! He's actually a martial artist at the First Level Void Transformation Stage. Apart from comprehending a type of Void Transformation Concept, he has even comprehended three other Ninth level Interpretation Concepts! Duan Ling Tian is trying to provoke you so that you'll agree to the bet. You must not be fooled by him. Otherwise, your Sun Moon Sect will definitely lose two Ninth Level Concept Fragments!" The Voice Transmission ended without any warning when it reached this point.

The instance Chen Feng heard the Voice Transmission, his face turned ashen immediately.

The First Level Voice Transformation?

Had he comprehended a Void Transformation Concept? Moreover, he had also comprehended three Ninth Level Void Interpretation Concepts?

Chen Feng inhaled deeply as he sized up the purple-clad young man while he continuously asked himself in his heart, 'Is this Duan Ling Tian really that capable?'

He could not believe this!

In his opinion, it was something that was almost impossible.

It was necessary for a First Level Void Transformation martial artist to comprehend the Void Transformation Concept. However, if he had comprehended another Ninth Level Void Interpretation Concept, he could be considered as a monster in comprehending Concepts!

The Voice Transmission had actually said that Duan Ling Tian was a First Level Void Transformation martial artist who had not only comprehended the Void Transformation Concept but three other Void Interpretation Concepts as well.

Absurd!

It was absolutely absurd!

Chen Feng shook his head. He immediately decided that the other party was trying to deceive him. Moreover, that Voice transmission actually came from the group of Five Element Sect's people.

Unfortunately, the Voice Transmission came too abruptly. Due to this reason, he could not identify the owner of the Voice Transmission among the Five Element Sect's disciples.

However, there was one thing that he was completely sure of. He was certain the other party was trying to deceive him.

He could easily guess why the other party was trying to deceive him.

The other party simply did not want him to accept the bet with Duan Ling Tian and wanted him, the Sun Moon Sect, to bend in the face of Five Element Sect. Moreover, the other party also wanted him to embarrass himself in front of the Empyrean Temple.

Although it seemed like the other party was trying to help him retain his two Ninth Level Concept Fragments by doing this, the reason the other party did this was to help Duan Ling Tian and the Five Element Sect if one was to think about it deeply.

This was because if he rejected the challenge now, his disciple would lose the chance to defeat Duan Ling Tian before a big crowd of people. Furthermore, Five Element Sect would win this hands down without a fight, making it easy for them to suppress Sun Moon Sect.

"Duan Ling Tian, I must admit that you're indeed smart!" As Chen Feng looked at Duan Ling Tian, he told him through Voice Transmission, "You actually know how to make concessions for the sake of advancing huh? You asked someone to exaggerate your strength in front of me so that the Sun Moon Sect and I would withdraw in the face of difficulties, thus letting you and the Five Element Sect win without a fight! If it was someone from the

Empyrean Temple who had warned me using the Voice Transmission, I might have fallen for it. However, you actually let your Five Element Sect warn me through Voice Transmission. How foolish is that?!" Chen Feng's Voice Transmission was filled with disdain.

Duan Ling Tian was stunned for a moment when he heard Chen Feng's Voice Transmission.

He asked somebody from Five Element Sect to exaggerate his strength in front of Chen Feng through Voice Transmission?

Initially, Duan Ling Tian was somewhat perplexed. He could not suppress his curiosity as he glanced around at the Five Element Sect's people. Soon enough, he finally found some telltale signs.

The moment he looked at Hu Fei, he noticed that Hu Fei's gaze seemed to be avoiding him deliberately. The fact that he did not dare to look at him directly was completely out of his character.

"Hu Fei!" A cold gleam flashed across his eyes as the flame of fury in his heart rose up immediately.

He was certain that Hu Fei was the person that sent the Voice Transmission to Chen Feng.

However, it seemed like Chen Feng did not believe Hu Fei at all. This made Duan Ling Tian sighed in relief.

After Duan Ling Tian heaved a sigh of relief, the killing intent in the depth of Duan Ling Tian's eyes burned even brighter. That killing intent was targeted at none other than Hu Fei.

It was just as he had previously thought, he would not have a day of peace as long as Hu Fei was alive.

"How pitiful! What a pity! Originally, I was a little hesitant when I saw you confidently taking out two Ninth Level Transformation Concepts to bet with me. At that time, I even thought of rejecting that betting wager of yours in order to retain my Ninth Level Concept Fragments even if it means that the Sun Moon Sect and I

would make a fool out of ourselves," Chen Feng's Voice Transmission that was filled with complacency continued on in Duan Ling Tian's ears.

"Unfortunately, you asked somebody from Five Element Sect to exaggerate your strength to me through Voice Transmission. I can still accept mild exaggeration, but I can't believe that he would actually exaggerate to the point that it became ridiculous! For this reason, the person who will be disgraced today will neither be Sun Moon Sect nor I! Instead, it'll be Five Element Sect and you, Duan Ling Tian!" Chen Feng's Voice Transmission ended abruptly.

Duan Ling Tian was stunned into silence. Did Hu Fei just inadvertently help him?

If Hu Fei knew that it would turn out this way, he would most likely be so enraged that he would spit out three liters of blood at least.

However, Duan Ling Tian's killing intent towards Hu Fei did not diminish at all just because of this.

In his heart, Hu Fei was already a dead man. As long as he had the opportunity, he would definitely make sure Hu Fei died in his hands.

"Hurmph!"

Upon hearing Chen Feng's Voice Transmission, Duan Ling Tian snorted. He deliberately darkened his expression a little.

When Chen Feng saw Duan Ling Tian's face, a mocking smile appeared on his face instantly. Another piece of Concept Fragment appeared in his palm with just a lift of his hand.

Under the watchful eyes of the others, Chen Feng announced loudly, "Duan Ling Tian, since you wanted to go big, let me accompany you in going big as well! This is a Ninth Level Saber Concept Fragment. Coupled with the Ninth Level Sword Concept Fragment in my hand, these two will become the Sun Moon Sect's

betting wager."

Chen Feng did not wait for Duan Ling Tian to respond. Instead, he looked at Hui Kong, the Abbot of the Empyrean Temple. "Hui Kong, you bald donkey. Although I've never dealt with you before, I've heard that you're a decent man. Today, I would like to invite you to become the witness for the bet between Duan Ling Tian, this disciple of Five Element Sect, and I! As for the betting wagers, I think you should be the one to safe keep them as well." As he finished his sentence, Chen Feng lifted his hand and tossed the two Ninth Level Concept Fragments to Hui Kong.

After Hui Kong caught the two Ninth Piece Concept Fragments, he put his ten fingers together and said, "Amitabha... Since Sect Leader Chen believes in me, I'll do as you wish!"

"Duan Ling Tian, don't you think you should also pass your betting wagers to Hui Kong that bald donkey for safekeeping?" A smirk could be seen playing by the corner of Chen Feng's mouth as he looked at Duan Ling Tian.

He had chosen to pass the fragments for safekeeping because he was worried Duan Ling Tian would regret his decision later.

If the situation developed until that point, although Duan Ling Tian and the Five Element Sect would make a fool out of themselves, his Sun Moon Sect would not be able to get their hands on the two Concept Fragments in Duan Ling Tian's hands.

The reason he did that was to make it difficult for Duan Ling Tian to back down from his decision.

Naturally, Duan Ling Tian could still refuse if he wanted to, but the price he would have to pay for his refusal would be extremely high. It would be far higher than the value of the two Ninth Level Concept Fragments.

If Duan Ling Tian really did refuse, it would be difficult not only for him but for the entire Five Element Sect to lift their heads up in the northern desert in the future.

"Good call, Sect Leader Chen Feng!" Naturally, Duan Ling Tian knew what Chen Feng was thinking. After he deliberately showed Chen Feng an expression like he was deep in thoughts, he casually threw the two Ninth Level Concept Fragments in his hand to Hui Kong. "Abbot Hui Kong, thank you."

After he took the two Ninth Level Concept Fragments, Hui Kong said with his ten fingers interlaced, "Amitabha... You're most welcome, Little Benefactor Duan."

"Huh?" When Chen Feng saw Duan Ling Tian passed the two Ninth Level Concept Fragments to Hui Kong without any hesitation, he could not help but furrowed his brows.

However, he quickly unfurrowed his brows again.

In his opinion, Duan Ling Tian was just putting on air to appear impressive.

No matter what, he would never believe that a little boy like Duan Ling Tian would be able to defeat Lu Kai who ranked among the top three among the younger generation of Sun Moon Sect.

Whoosh!

At this time, Duan Ling Tian had an aloof expression on his face as he returned to stand before Lu Kai.

"Little Benefactor Duan, Little Benefactor Lu. Although your battle involves the ownership of two Ninth Level Concept Fragments, I hope that the both of you will show restraint," Hui Kong advised with his fingers interlaced as he looked at Duan Ling Tian and Lu Kai.

Chapter 934: It's Because He's My Big Brother Duan!

"I have no opinion!" Duan Ling Tian shrugged indifferently.

The purpose of him joining the battle was to win the two Ninth Level Concept Fragments. It really did not matter to him if he killed his opponent or not.

Naturally, the most important factor was Lu Kai, the Sun Moon Sect's disciple who was standing before him, had yet to do anything that elicited his killing intent.

"Anyone who provokes our Sun Moon Sect has to die!" Lu Kai's voice was bloodcurdling and shrill. It was obvious from his words that he had the intention of killing Duan Ling Tian.

Duan Ling Tian narrowed his eyes. A sneer crept up on the corner of his mouth.

Earlier, he was still wondering earlier if he should spare Lu Kai's life or not. However, the sentence that Lu Kai uttered had completely destroyed his original plan.

Everyone must be responsible for the words they said!

Duan Ling Tian and Lu Kai stood across each other in a stalemate. They immediately attracted everyone's attention.

"It's amazing that Duan Ling Tian was able to take out two Ninth Level Concept Fragments! However, what's more shocking is the fact that he dares to bet against the Sect Leader of Sun Moon Sect."

"Don't tell me he really thinks he can beat the Sun Moon Sect's disciple?"

"That Sun Moon Sect's disciple is personally named by the Sect Leader of Sun Moon Sect so his strength is certainly simple!"

"This Duan Ling Tian is most likely going for wool, but he'll most

likely end up coming home shorn!"

• • •

Many of the monk disciples from the Empyrean Temple were engaged in discussion with each other. It was apparent that they had no faith in Duan Ling Tian at all.

Naturally, if one were to get into the whys and wherefores of it, it all boiled down to the fact that Duan Ling Tian was too young, so young that it was bordering on ridiculous.

"Whoosh!

All of a sudden, the black clothes on Lu Kai, the Sun Moon Sect's disciple who was locked in a stalemate with Duan Ling Tian, billowed without warning. The Origin Energy on his body rose and continued to merge with a wave of sharp aura.

In just a blink of an eye, Lu Kai's tyrannical aura transformed into a gigantic saber, and it emitted a wave of aura that seemed like it was able to cut everything open.

The Heaven and Earth Energy on the sky whirled, and the Heaven and Earth Phenomenon immediately solidified into form.

First, 120 silhouettes of ancient horned dragons appeared, and it was closely followed by another 100 silhouettes of ancient horned dragons.

The Ninth Level Void Interpretation!

Ninth Level Intermediate Saber Concept Fragment!

Lu Kai's strength came as a shock to many Empyrean Temple's disciples. It further convinced them that Duan Ling Tian would not be able to defeat Lu Kai.

"Duan Ling Tian, I hope that you won't disappoint me!" Xuan Bei muttered to himself as he stared at Duan Ling Tian's silhouette.

"Huh?" A spirit saber that was as thin as a cicada's wing appeared in Lu Kai's hand. At the moment he was about to launch his attack,

it seemed like he had noticed something. He shook his head as he looked in the distance.

At this time, everybody, including Duan Ling Tian, also looked into the distance.

As it turned out, there was a group of people heading in their direction.

In just a flash, they arrived at the spot where Duan Ling Tian and the others stood.

"Big Brother Duan!" A soft and sweet voice that was filled with joy rang out from the group of people.

Under the watchful eyes of the others, a flash of fiery fairy-like figure immediately soared upwards and flew all the way to the purple-clad figure with a speed that was as fast as lightning.

When Duan Ling Tian heard the familiar voice, he felt his heart tightened immediately.

In the next moment, he noticed that the streak of the fiery red figure had already arrived in front of him before he could even respond. She stood across him as they faced each other.

The person standing across Duan Ling Tian was a girl so beautiful that her beauty could topple a city. A smile that could infatuate all mortals was spread widely on her face. For a moment, the surroundings seemed dull in comparison.

"Tian Wu." Duan Ling Tian smiled faintly when he saw the redclad girl before him.

The person who came was none other than Feng Tian Wu!

Feng Wu Tian, who became excited after she saw the person who had been appearing in her dreams in flesh and blood, calmed herself down a little. After taking a deep breath, she finally asked gently, "Big Brother Duan, why are you here?"

It did not cross her mind that she would be able to meet her Big

Brother Duan here.

Was Big Brother Duan not taken away by a Martial Monarch powerhouse?

"Duan Ling Tian!"

"Brother Ling Tian!"

At this moment, two figures followed suit behind Feng Tian Wu and appeared in front of Duan Ling Tian. Astonishment could clearly be seen on their faces. It was apparent that they did not expect to see Duan Ling Tian here.

"Su Li, Big Brother Zhang," Duan Ling Tian greeted the two of them as he smiled.

The two people who appeared in front of Duan Ling Tian were none other than Su Li and Zhang Shou Yong.

Su Li could not contain his curiosity as he asked, "Duan Ling Tian, where have you been all these while? Why are you here all of a sudden?"

Although Zhang Shou Yong did not say a word, his gaze that was filled with puzzlement indicated that he was curious about this as well.

"The entire story is a little too hard to explain with just a few words. I'll tell all of you more about it when we have time. As for why I'm here, well, the reason is the as same as yours." Duan Ling Tian shook his head before he continued, "However, the one thing that's different is you're representing Blade Sect while I represent Five Element Sect."

Five Element Sect!

After Su Li heard Duan Ling Tian's words, he could not suppress his surprise. "The Five Element Sect that's also one of the three major forces in the eastern district of the northern desert?"

"Yes." Duan Ling Tian smiled and nodded.

"Big Brother Duan, why did you suddenly join the Five Element Sect?" A look of bafflement crept up on Feng Tian Wu's pretty face.

Before Duan Ling Tian could reply, a flash of light shone in the eyes of a middle-aged man as his gaze landed on Duan Ling Tian. He was among the four men leading the group that had just arrived.

"Duan Ling Tian," the middle-aged man greeted Duan Ling Tian.

The moment he heard the voice, Duan Ling Tian shifted his attention towards the middle-aged man. His eyes lit up instantly as he quickly greeted with surprise, "Senior!"

This middle-aged man was none other than the Vice Sect Leader of the Sword Sect from Blade Sect. He was also Su Li's Master, Sword 13.

He owed Sword 13 a debt of gratitude, and he had always kept this in mind.

"Did you just say that you came here on behalf of the Five Element Sect?" Sword 13 asked with a slight frown.

"Yes." Duan Ling Tian nodded his head before he quickly apologized, "Senior, I'm very sorry. Five Element Sect has been very kind to me, I'll work on their behalf of this time when I enter the Martial Emperor's secret treasure. I really can't represent Blade Sect this time."

When the people from Five Element Sect saw so many people from the group of newcomers were familiar with Duan Ling Tian, they were taken aback for a moment. At this moment, when they heard the exchange between Duan Ling Tian and Sword 13, they were once again stunned.

Was Duan Ling Tian supposed to represent Blade Sect in entering the Martial Emperor's secret treasure previously?

Although they did not know what happened, they could not help but rejoice when they heard Duan Ling Tian's words. In their opinions, Duan Ling Tian was a massive killing weapon. Having him in Five Element Sect would definitely gain them the greatest benefits when they were in the Martial Emperor's secret treasure.

Before Sword 13 had time to even open his mouth, a cold snort could be heard at once. "Hurmph!"

A green figure immediately flew out from the group of Blade Sect's people. It was obvious the green-clad young man was one of the Blade Sect's twenty young disciples.

After that green-clad young man came out, he immediately looked at Duan Ling Tian and asked in a deep voice, "So, you're Duan Ling Tian?"

"Who are you?" Zhou Weiqing frowned instantly when he was faced with the unfriendly green-clad young man.

After the green-clad young man swept a contemptuous glance at Duan Ling Tian, he asked with his deep voice again, "You don't have to know who I am! You only need to answer me. Did you promise Senior Uncle Sword that you'll enter the Sword Sect of Blade Sect?"

"Yes, but..." Duan Ling Tian nodded his head. Just as he was about to explain the situation, he was immediately interrupted by that green-clad young man again, "That's good enough! In other words, you're supposed to be a disciple of the Sword Sect of Blade Sect, but you actually jumped ship to the Five Element Sect! Although you're just a soon-to-be disciple of Sword Sect, a soon-to-be disciple who jumped ship to another sect would be regarded as a traitor as well according to our Blade Sect's rules! Today, I, Lian Xiong, will represent the sect's law enforcement elders to enforce the rule and take the traitor out!" The green-clad young man, Lian Xiong, said all of that very quickly. Before the crowd even had time to make head or tail of the situation, he had already transformed into a flash of green light and charged towards Duan Ling Tian.

Whoosh!

A streak of swift sword's ray accompanied his attack on Duan Ling Tian. In just a blink of an eye, the sword's ray had already appeared before Duan Ling Tian's eyes.

What an appalling speed the sword's ray possessed!

Whoosh!

In the meantime, over 270 silhouettes of ancient horned dragons appeared on top of Lian Xiong's head. In other words, the sword that he unleashed at Duan Ling Tian had the strength of over 270 ancient horned dragons.

Eighth Level Void Interpretation!

Eighth Level Intermediate Sword Concept!

Grade Three Spirit Sword!

In the eyes of most of the people present at the scene, the greenclad young man possessed a speed that was shockingly fast. However, in Duan Ling Tian's eyes, that speed was pitifully slow.

When Duan Ling Tian saw the Grade Three Spirit Sword in the hands of the green-clad young man was barely a foot away from his eyes, he was already prepared to reach a hand out to catch the sword. It was not a difficult task for him to take on the sword with his bare hands after all.

However, he could hear a hissing noise that vanished as soon as it appeared without any warning just as he was about to extend his hand.

Smack!

At this moment, a crisp and clear sound entered Duan Ling Tian's ears.

Duan Ling Tian immediately noticed that the sword that was in close proximity with his eyes had disappeared without a trace. More precisely, it had already flown far away.

An arm that had been severed flew along with it. The severed arm was very eye-catching with the fresh blood pouring out from the open wound.

The blood spilled from the sky, and it formed a patch that was similar to blossoming red rose.

"AHHHH!!" Meanwhile, a shrill scream broke the silence in the air.

It was none other than Lian Xiong who stood not far away from Duan Ling Tian. Cries of pain could be heard from him as he pressed on the wound on his shoulder to staunch the continuously flowing blood.

"WHO WAS THAT?!" When he finally caught his breath, he immediately glared at the person who had just attacked him.

However, the moment he saw the red spirit snake-like long whip in the hand of the red-clad young woman who was just standing still, his face blanched immediately. "J-Junior Sister F-Feng! He has betrayed our sect so he should atone for it with his death! W-Why did you help him?"

The person who crippled Lian Xiong was none other than Feng Tian Wu.

She was also the first person who came to her senses and immediately stopped Lian Xiong in time.

The whip swept out and instantly wrapped around Lian Xiong's arm that was holding onto the sword. In the next moment, she forcibly tore the arm off Lian Xiong's shoulder and flung it away. Her entire movement was as smooth as water.

"It's because he's my Big Brother Duan!" Feng Tian Wu's answer was very simple and straightforward.

Chapter 935: Battle!

"It's because he's my Big Brother Duan!" Just a short sentence from Feng Tian Wu was enough to make many of the young men from all the different forces look at Duan Ling Tian with jealousy. How they itched to be the person to take Duan Ling Tian's place instead.

At this moment, anyone who was not blind could see Feng Tian Wu's affection for Duan Ling Tian.

"This Duan Ling Tian has quite a luck with women," Huang Daniu said with a look of envy on his face.

When he first saw such an exquisite beauty like Feng Tian Wu, he could not help but become immediately infatuated.

With a face that was filled with jealousy and hate, Lian Xiong gnashed his teeth as he hissed at Feng Tian Wu, "J-Junior Sister Feng, y-you'll regret this!" Then, he turned and flew away to give chase to the severed arm that she had torn off and flung away.

"If he can find his arm and reattach it in time, there's still a possibility of recovery."

"When the Blade Sect's disciple launched his attack, the Heaven and Earth Energy whirled and a total of 120 silhouettes of ancient horned dragons solidified... Although he's strong, he still had his arm severed by this fairy-like female disciple from Blade Sect."

"This Blade Sect's disciple appears to be only in her early twenties... It's terribly shocking that she possesses such a horrifying strength at such a young age."

"She's indeed one of God's favorite! Not only does she has looks that could topple a country and infatuate all mortal beings, she even has such remarkable talents and comprehension that are more than enough to incite people's jealousy!"

• • •

It did not matter if they were the disciples from Five Element Sect, Empyrean Temple or Sun Moon Sect, all of them could not help but whisper among each other.

The shock that Feng Tian Wu gave them was too earth-shattering.

Although Feng Tian Wu's attack was very quick, it was so fast that she did not even mobilize her Heaven and Earth Energy to solidify the Heaven and Earth Phenomenon, they could clearly see that Feng Tian Wu's strength was a lot more powerful than the Blade Sect's disciple whose arm she severed.

"Tian Wu girl, you've gone too far this time." One of the two old men who was leading Blade Sect — the skinny one— looked at Feng Tian Wu with a slight hint of censure.

As the saying went, 'Anyone who touches the forbidden dragon's lamella will die!'

In her world, Duan Ling Tian was her lamella.

Today, she did not kill Lian Xiong because her father, Feng Wu Dao, was a Sword Sect's Elder in Blade Sect. She did not want to put her father in a difficult situation.

The Sect Leader of Blade Sect?

Although Duan Ling Tian did not know whether this man was the Sect Leader of Saber or Sword Sect, he must admit that his impression of him was not good.

What did he mean by 'gone too far'?

That Blade Sect's disciple, Lian Xiong, wanted to kill him the moment he appeared. The sword in his hand was within reach from his eyes, and it could have killed him. If it had not been for Tian Wu who reacted in time, that green-clad young man would already be a dead body by now if it was up to Duan Ling Tian.

Lian Xiong only had one of his arm severed, and that old man

actually condemned Tian Wu for overdoing it?

The old man quickly shifted his gaze from Feng Tian Wu to Duan Ling Tian. His tone was extremely casual and his voice was aloof as he asked, "You're Duan Ling Tian? The soon-to-be disciple of my Sword Sect?"

Duan Ling Tian remained calm. He looked directly into the old man's eyes and announced in an indifferent manner, "From now on, I, Duan Ling Tian, have nothing to do at all with Blade Sect!"

The moment he heard the old man condemning Feng Tian Wu earlier, he no longer had any interest in joining Blade Sect.

"Duan Ling Tian!" Upon hearing Duan Ling Tian's words, Sword 13 immediately became aghast.

It did not cross his mind that Duan Ling Tian would speak to the Sect Leader of Sword Sect from Blade Sect in such a manner. Moreover, the first thing that came out of his mouth was to actually cut off all ties with Blade Sect.

"Oh?" After the old man came to his senses, his face darkened immediately. He asked in a deep voice, "Do you really think that Blade Sect is somewhere you can easily enter and leave as you please?"

"To me, yes," Duan Ling Tian replied without any hesitation. "In the beginning, I only promised senior that I'll join Blade Sect because of my gratitude to him. As of now, I have zero interest in joining Blade Sect."

When Duan Ling Tian reached this point in his sentence, he became too lazy to continue paying attention to the old man. Instead, he looked at Sword 13. "Senior, I'll definitely pay my debt of gratitude to you one day. However, it's really impossible for me to join Blade Sect."

The old man's attitude earlier was like a splash of cold water on Duan Ling Tian's heart. Although there might be some other reason for his behavior — Lian Xiong's identity and background might not be ordinary — those excuse was not enough for him.

When Sword 13 saw the determination on Duan Ling Tian's face, he knew that the situation had been irreversibly damaged. For a moment, he did not know what to say, and he could only smile wryly.

"Alright, fine! Today, for the sake of Tian Wu this little girl, I'll not get into a dispute with you for now!" The old man became blue in the face from the rage caused by Duan Ling Tian. When he finished his sentence, he took a deep breath before he continued again, "Since you're unwilling to enter our Blade Sect, Blade Sect will not force you as well. From today onwards, you're no longer the soon-to-be disciple of our Blade Sect. We have many strong young powerhouses in our sect. There's no difference whether you're in or not!"

As the old man reached the end of his sentence, he announced it with flagging interest. It was obvious that he thought very little of Duan Ling Tian.

"I couldn't ask for anything better!" Duan Ling Tian nodded his head before he turned toward Lu Kai, the Sun Moon Sect's disciple who was waiting behind him. He motioned to him and said in a deep voice, "Let's begin."

He had not forgotten about the bet that he had made with Chen Feng, the Sect Leader of Sun Moon Sect. This matter concerned two Ninth Level Concept Fragments so he would definitely remember it.

"Big Brother Duan, you're...?" Feng Tian Wu swept a glance at Lu Kai. Although Lu Kai had already retracted his Origin Energy and Concept, she saw his strength when she first arrived.

Without any spirit weapon, he managed to mobilize his Heaven and Earth Energy and solidified 220 silhouettes of ancient horned dragons.

Due to this reason, Feng Tian Wu could see that Lu Kai was a Ninth Level Void Interpretation martial artist who had comprehended the Ninth Level Void Interpretation Concept.

"It's nothing. I have a battle and bet with him. You only need to watch from the side." Duan Ling Tian shook his head and flashed Feng Tian Wu as smile as he gave her a reassuring look.

Feng Tian Wu retreated obediently upon hearing his words.

"Duan Ling Tian, be careful!" At this time, Su Li and Zhang Shou Yong had also retreated and watched Duan Ling Tian standing in a confrontation manner across the black-clad young man.

That young man gave them a sense of danger.

As Duan Ling Tian and Lu Kai were locked in a stalemate with each other again, the Origin Energy and the Saber Concept reappeared on Lu Kai again as well.

At the same time, the monk disciples from the Empyrean Temple started to bury their heads together in heated discussions again.

From the mouth of the Empyrean Temple monk disciples, Feng Tian Wu, Su Li, Zhang Shou Yong and the rests of Blade Sect's people quickly learned the ins and outs of the matter. A stunned expression could be seen on everyone's faces.

"The betting wager for this battle from both sides are two Ninth Level Concept Fragments?"

"That Sun Moon Sect's disciple, Lu Kai, is a Ninth Level Void Interpretation martial artist who has comprehended the Ninth Level Intermediate Sword Concept?"

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Each and every one of the people from Blade Sect was discussing this among themselves as well. There was a hint of surprise on their faces, and they could not help but feel anticipative. They were all eager to watch Duan Ling Tian and Lu Kai's battle. Naturally, the majority of them felt that the odds of Lu Kai winning the battle were higher.

Swish!

At this moment, a figure appeared from the distance. It was none other than Lian Xiong who went to retrieve his arm earlier.

The severed arm had already been reattached to his body, but Lian Xiong's face was still extremely pale. It was so pale that he looked no different from a dead man.

After he came back, he turned to look at Feng Tian Wu. The depth of his eyes was extremely cold.

"Lian Xiong, let us move on from the incident when Tian Wu severed your arm earlier." The skinny old man, who was also the Sect Leader of Sword Sect, swept a glance at Lian Xiong faintly. His tone was cold and did not contain any emotions at all.

"Sect Leader, she..." Upon hearing the old man's words, horror dawned on Lian Xiong's face immediately. Just as he was about to refute, he was cut off by that old man, "Didn't you hear me clearly? Or could it be that you actually want me to repeat my words again?"

When the old man reached the end of his sentence, his voice was as cold as a thaw hole. It was so cold that Lian Xiong could not help but shiver as he glared at Feng Tian Wu unwillingly. However, he eventually had to dismiss the thoughts of revenge from his mind.

He was very clear that he could no longer take vengeance at Feng Tian Wu unless he did not want to stay in Blade Sect anymore or if this old man passed away.

Otherwise, he would be a dead man if the old man found out.

Lian Xiong took a deep breath as he shifted his gaze away and started to search for Duan Ling Tian's silhouette.

Very soon, he noticed that Duan Ling Tian was locked in a

stalemate with a black-clad young man. Moreover, that black-clad young man demonstrated a strength that was far more powerful than himself — the Ninth Level Void Interpretation and a comprehension at the Ninth Level Void Interpretation Concept.

"What's going on?" Lian Xiong was extremely puzzled. Why would Duan Ling Tian go up against this young powerhouse?

After he had learned of the reason from the bystanders, he could not help but secretly smirk. "So it's like this, huh? This Duan Ling Tian is seeking for his own death! Does he really think that he can win against a Ninth Level Void Interpretation martial artist who has comprehended the Ninth Level Void Interpretation Concept? How lucky that you did not by my hands!"

Lian Xiong's cold gaze was trained on Duan Ling Tian as a sneer crept up on the corner of his mouth.

However, the sneer completely froze in place in the next moment.

Dear Lord!

What did he just witness?!

In the distance, Lu Kai, the Sun Moon Sect's disciple finally launched his attack. The spirit saber that was as thin as a cicada's wing in his hand trembled as all of his energy from his body rushed into the spirit saber, and he pounced at Duan Ling Tian.

More than 310 silhouettes of ancient horned dragons in the sky charged and leaped at Duan Ling Tian with their teeth and claws bared.

Screech!

The saber ray that was as thin as a cicada's wings pointed forward, and the air flow in the air was immediately sliced into two. It caused a series of screeching sound. As the screeching sound turned louder, it also became completely ear-piercing.

The slice that contained the strength of over 310 ancient horned dragons charged at Duan Ling Tian like a shadow that followed its form. It looked like it was about to slice and rip Duan Ling Tian into two.

Faced with such a deadly and fierce slice from the sword, Duan Ling Tian's eyes shone with indifference and fearlessness. Without any warning, he took a step forward.

Under the watchful eyes of the others, Duan Ling Tian finally made his move.

His right palm formed a fist as his arm suddenly stretched backward. His wide back became as taut as a pulled bow.

All of a sudden.

Whoosh!

Followed by a quiver on Duan Ling Tian's strong back, his fist shot out like a cannonball and charged forward to intercept the swift saber ray.

Chapter 936: A Blow With Just A Punch

When everyone saw Duan Ling Tian's empty-handed fist charging out to greet the Grade Two Spirit Saber that was as thin as cicada's wing in Lu Kai, the Sun Moon Sect disciple's hand, almost everyone, apart from the Five Element Sect's people, had shivers running down their spines.

However, this did not last for too long.

Whoosh!

A wave of tyrannical Origin Energy blasted out of Duan Ling Tian's fist that shot out like a cannonball. The instance the Origin Energy appeared, an earth-shattering transformation suddenly took place.

Cloudy white Origin Energy transformed into a wave of vast majestic khaki energy.

Around the khaki energy, there were streaks of thunderbolts that were as robust as purple electrical snakes that spread all over the place. Apart from that, a sharp aura was emitting from it as well.

Moreover, there were also gusts of solidified wind chi that were twining around his fists like a shadow. Naturally, all of these changes could only be seen by the senior officials from each of the major sect who possessed astonishing eyesights.

As for the young disciples from each of the major forces, they could no longer see what was happening to Duan Ling Tian's fist the moment he punched out his fist.

All that they could see was the rapid surging of the air flow in the air as it compressed against each other and exploded, setting off a series of ear-piercing explosions that entered their ears like thunder.

Boom! Boom! Boom! Boom! Boom!

...

The sound of explosion became louder as it went on. It thumped on the eardrums of the young disciples from every major force with lower cultivation bases as their faces blanched.

The eardrums of some of the young disciples whose cultivation base was not good were blasted open. A gush of blood leaked out from their ears.

Wham!

All of a sudden, a loud noise reverberated in the sky. Everyone on the scene narrowed their eyes immediately.

When the energy contained in Duan Ling Tian's fist went forward to welcome the Grade Two Spirit Saber in Lu Kai, the Sun Moon Sect's disciple's hand, it shook and sent the Grade Two Spirit Saber flying backward as easily as breaking a dry branch. The energy then shrouded Lu Kai's body.

In that instance, Lu Kai's body exploded before turning into flesh and blood that scattered in the sky. It left no complete piece behind.

There could not be a more horrifying way for him to die.

Swish!

After Duan Ling Tian completely crushed and blew up Lu Kai in just one blow, he retracted the Origin Energy in his hands and his four Concepts. The Heaven and Earth Energy that was whirling above his head subsequently dissipated as well.

Because his attack had happened in a blink of an eye, the Heaven and Earth Phenomenon had already dispersed before it could even solidify into form.

Duan Ling Tian hovered in mid-air. Not far ahead of him was a rain of blood and flesh that covered the entire sky. It was like a blooming firework that celebrated his final victory in this battle bet.

Fireworks filled the sky, it looked extremely beautiful, eyecatching and dazzling.

The purple robe on Duan Ling Tian fluttered along with the wind. The sight of him hovering there made him appear majestic in the eyes of the spectators.

Gasp! Gasp! Gasp! Gasp! Gasp!

...

A series of gasping sound resonated in the air. As one subsided, another rose again in succession.

"This Duan Ling Tian is so powerful!"

"Don't you think his strength is too horrifying? Just a blow and he managed to blow up that Sun Moon Sect's disciple whose comprehension was at the Ninth Level Void Interpretation Concept!"

"Look at his age! He's basically a monster!"

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It did not matter if it was a disciple from the Empyrean Temple, Sun Moon Sect, or Blade Sect, all of them could not help but whisper to each other.

In their exchange, the moment they brought up the name 'Duan Ling Tian', a hint of dread could be heard in their voice. It was the kind of dread that originated from the bottom of their hearts.

"Big Brother Duan!" Feng Tian Wu's eyes lit up immediately. A smile that could infatuate all mortal beings appeared on her delicate face.

She stood there with her graceful body and her smile that was as beautiful as a flower, it was as though she was a magnificent painting.

Although Feng Tian Wu had always had complete faith in Duan Ling Tian, the moment she saw the tremendous power Duan Ling Tian demonstrated and how he killed his opponent with just one blow, she still felt very happy for him.

"Duan Ling Tian's power has become so powerful now?" Su Li's eyes narrowed instantly, amazement was written all over his face. "Initially, I thought our gap would narrow when I see him next, but who would've ever thought that he's already so far ahead!"

The way Duan Ling Tian had killed a Ninth Level Void Interpretation martial artist who had comprehended the Ninth Level Void Interpretation Concept with just one blow had shaken him to the core.

Zhang Shou Yong's eyes were narrowed as well. Although he did not say anything, the current expression he was wearing was enough to give a hint to the bewilderment he felt in his heart.

After all, it was safe to say that he had been watching Duan Ling Tian grew day by day up to today.

The young man in the past who needed his help to survive at the Eternal Jade Restaurant in the Ancient City of Everlast had unwittingly grown to a stage where he had to look up to him now.

'Every dog has its day! Brother Ling Tian, now that I think back on how we first met, it's indeed true that great changes do come with time...' Zhang Shou Yong thought to himself.

In Blade Sect, other than Feng Tian Wu, Su Li and Zhang Shou Yong who were struck dumb with amazement, Blade 13 and the other three Blade Sect's senior officials could not help but felt bewildered as well.

"Just a few months and Duan Ling Tian's strength has actually risen to such a level! What sorcery is this!" Blade 13 marveled.

"As expected from a Variant!" Saber 5 who stood nearby nodded approvingly.

"Variant?" Saber 5's words instantly made the two old men standing by the side froze for a moment. The sturdy old man looked at him and asked in a deep voice, "Saber 5, did you just say that Duan Ling Tian is a Variant?"

"Yes," Saber 5 nodded. "He's a Variant who can cast innate ability."

"A Variant who can cast innate ability?" The sturdy old man, who was also the Sect Leader of Saber Sect in Blade Sect, gasped.

The skinny old man standing by his side, who was the Sect Leader of Sword Sect, could not help but shiver for a moment before he froze for a few seconds. At this moment, all he could feel was the burning heat on his face.

It was as though the words that he told Duan Ling Tian earlier was replaying in his ears. "We have many strong and young powerhouses in our sect. There won't be any difference whether you're in or not!"

He really wanted to give himself a good slap at this moment.

He had said that earlier because he did not know Duan Ling Tian's strength was actually this appalling, let alone the fact that Duan Ling Tian was actually a one-of-a-kind Variant.

"W-Why didn't the both of you say so earlier?" The Sect Leader of Sword Sect glared at Sword 13 and Blade 5, a hint of fury could be heard in his voice.

Had he known earlier that Duan Ling Tian's strength was so formidable, and that he was actually a Variant, he would never have treated Duan Ling Tian that way earlier.

A single slip could cause a lasting sorrow!

This was exactly what the Sect Leader of Sword Sect was feeling right now.

"Previously, Senior Brother Sword and I thought that Duan Ling

Tian had been brought away by that Martial Emperor powerhouse so we didn't mention much about him." Sword 13 smiled wryly.

Saber 5 nodded.

"Fine. Since things have become like this, there's nothing much we can do right now! It's us 'Blade Sect' that has no fate with him, we can't blame it on anything else," The Sect Leader of Blade Sect said while shaking his head. He could guess what the Sect Leader of Sword Sect was thinking.

"How's this possible?!" Lian Xiong's eyes were filled with disbelief as he watched the purple figure hovering in the distant sky. He shook his head continuously, he refused to believe that this was real.

'I heard from Su Li that he's only around 28 years old? A 28 years old who can kill a Ninth Level Void Interpretation martial artist who had comprehended the Ninth Level Void Interpretation Concept with just a blow?" Lian Xiong's heart rate gradually accelerated, and he could not calm down for a long time.

'With his strength, if he had launched an attack on me a step earlier than Junior Sister Feng when I attacked him, wouldn't I end up dead instead?' The moment Lian Xiong thought of this, his forehead immediately became clammy from cold sweat. He no longer dared to regard Duan Ling Tian as an enemy.

He was terrified now.

Duan Ling Tian's horrifying strength had completely destroyed the hatred he had accumulated in his heart toward Duan Ling Tian.

"Senior Brother Ling Tian is really amazing!"

"Exactly! Just a blow and he managed to kill the Ninth Level Void Interpretation Crimson Moon Sect's disciple who had comprehended Ninth Level Void Interpretation Concept. Looking at the current younger generations in the Five Element Sect, only

Senior Brother Duan can do that!"

"Didn't the senior official from Blade Sect say that there are many strong and young powerhouses in their sect and that there won't be any difference whether Duan Ling Tian is in or not?"

"What a joke! Other than that red-clad young girl who's infatuated with Senior Brother Ling Tian, who else in Blade Sect can actually be compared to Senior Brother Ling Tian?"

• • •

The Five Element Sect's disciples discussed with each other. Many of them looked mockingly at the Sect Leader of Sword Sect from Blade Sect. It was as though they were laughing at how ignorant he was.

The group of Five Element Sect's high officials, apart from Guo Chong and Qi Yu, had a bright smile on their faces.

Even Cha Bai, the Peak Master of Fire Peak who had some dispute with Duan Ling Tian in the past, seemed to also have forgotten about the differences between himself and Duan Ling Tian. He also had a sincere smile on his face.

"Hurmph! How dare that Chen Feng doubt me!" Standing by the side, Hu Fei cast a glance from afar at Chen Feng, the Sect Leader of Sun Moon Sect. A smirk could be seen playing at the corner of his mouth.

In his opinion, it was entirely Chen Feng's own fault for losing to Duan Ling Tian this time.

"How is this possible?!" At this moment, Chen Feng was extremely horrified and appalled. It did not cross his mind that a Five Element Sect's disciple who looked only around 25 years old would actually be this horrifying. Just a blow and he managed to kill Lu Kai, who ranked third among the younger generation in Sun Moon Sect.

Moreover, it was under the circumstance where Lu Kai had

activated his Grade Two Spirit Saber.

The few Vice Sect Leaders and the group of disciples from Sun Moon Sect looked completely aghast.

Two of the Sun Moon Sect's disciples, who stood to the side by themselves, were exchanging glances with each other.

"Do you have any confidence?" One of them suddenly opened his mouth to ask in a low voice.

"No. You?" The other person shook his head before he posed the same question.

"No." The former also shook his head.

Both of them immediately went silent.

They were the two strongest people among the current younger generation of Sun Moon Sect. However, even they could not clearly see the punch that Duan Ling Tian, the Five Element Sect's disciple, threw earlier.

Not only that, none of them dared to say that they could kill a Lu Kai who went all out and activated a Grade Two Spirit Saber with just their bare hands.

However, Duan Ling Tian had done it.

"How powerful!" At the Empyrean Temple side, Xuan Bei's eyes were narrowed while his face was completely frozen.

He did not think that Duan Ling Tian's strength would be elevated to such level in just a few months.

"Now, this is what we call interesting!" However, the moment he recalled the battle bet between Duan Ling Tian and himself, a wave of excitement and anticipation immediately surged in Xuan Bei's heart.

It was apparent that he did not fear Duan Ling Tian at all despite the strength that Duan Ling Tian had demonstrated.

Chapter 937: Third Level Void Interpretation Concept?!

"Amitabha... Congratulations, Little Benefactor Duan." Under the watchful eyes of the others, Hui Kong, the Abbot of Empyrean Temple, slowly lifted his hand up and threw four fragments at Duan Ling Tian.

"Ninth Level Concept Fragments!" Although they were already mentally prepared, the instance they witnessed the four Ninth Level Concept Fragments falling into Duan Ling Tian's hands, many of the people present still could not suppress the shock that rose up in their hearts as they became consumed with envy.

Those were Ninth Level Concept Fragments after all!

Even in the respective sects they were in, there were only a few pieces in their hands.

However, right now, Duan Ling Tian, just this one young disciple from Five Element Sect, had monopolized four Ninth Level Concept Fragments. Even many of the high officials from the major sects could not help but be consumed by envy and jealousy as well.

Duan Ling Tian took the four Ninth Level Concept Fragments and placed them into his Spatial Ring one by one while he thanked Hui Kong, the Empyrean Temple's Abbot, "Thank you, Master Hui Kong."

"You're too polite, Little Benefactor Duan. I didn't do much," Hui Kong replied indifferently.

Duan Ling Tian nodded his head before narrowing his eyes at Chen Feng, the Sect Leader of Sun Moon Sect. His face was ashen. With a smile, Duan Ling Tian said, "Sect Leader Chen Feng, thank you for your two Ninth Level Concept Fragments!"

Chen Feng's originally pale face darkened instantly as he snorted.

"Duan Ling Tian, what can you do even if you have that two Ninth Level Concept Fragments? You'll only be considered capable if you can retain that two fragments. Otherwise, you'll only be carving a path for someone else!"

The instance Chen Feng's words left his mouth, many disciples' eyes from the Empyrean Temple, Blade Sect and Sun Moon Sect lit up immediately.

Indeed.

Would they not be able to snatch the four Ninth Level Concept Fragments in Duan Ling Tian's hands after they entered the Martial Emperor's secret treasure?

Naturally, there were more people who had these thoughts in their minds, but their intentions were crushed ruthlessly by him.

What a joke!

After all, one would need to be capable enough before one could even hope to snatch the Ninth Level Concept Fragments from Duan Ling Tian's hand.

Otherwise, it would only be a one way ticket to hell.

The scene of Duan Ling Tian punching the Ninth Level Void Interpretation martial artist who had comprehended the Ninth Level Void Interpretation Concept to death earlier was deeply seared into their minds. It would not disappear for a very long time.

However, there were four Ninth Level Concept Fragments on Duan Ling Tian. If four people joined forces to kill him, each of them would be able to get one Ninth Level Concept Fragment each.

The moment Chen Feng's words left his mouth, the restlessness from the three major forces' disciples — other than Five Element Sect — did not escape Duan Ling Tian's eyes. However, he did not feel disturbed by it at all.

"Thank you for your concern, Sect Leader Chen Feng," Duan Ling Tian replied Chen Feng casually before he cast a glance at the group of disciples from the three major forces who were looking at him like he was a prey. "I'd love to get closer to anyone who really wants to obtain the four Ninth Level Concept Fragments in my hands!"

A dazzling and confident smile appeared on Duan Ling Tian's face.

Upon hearing his words and seeing the confident smile on his face, many of the young disciples immediately dismissed the idea of going against Duan Ling Tian to snatch the four Ninth Level Concept Fragments.

Naturally, there were many exceptions as well.

After all, the temptation of these four Ninth Level Concept Fragments was just too huge. Even if they already knew Duan Ling Tian had a remarkable strength, they still wanted to give it a try.

As the saying went, 'How can you catch the tiger cub if you don't enter the tiger's lair?'

Under the watchful eyes of the others, Duan Ling Tian once again went to stand with Feng Tian Wu, Su Li, and Zhang Shou Yong. At the same time, he also asked the three of them to move toward the group of people from Five Element Sect.

Duan Ling Tian then introduced the three of them to Guo Chong, Qi Yu, Huang Daniu and Chen Wei, and vice versa.

"Sect Leader Guo, Peak Master Qi," Feng Tian Wu and the other two greeted Guo Chong and Qi Yu politely while they nodded at Huang Daniu and Chen Wei with a smile.

"Prior to this, I've never heard Duan Ling Tian mention anything about knowing such an extraordinary genius like you, Miss Feng. From what I can see, your strength is in no way inferior to Duan Ling Tian's, right?" Qi Yu asked with a twinkling smile in his eyes

as he stared intensely at Feng Tian Wu.

"You flatter me, Peak Master Qi. How can I possibly be better than Big Brother Duan?" Feng Tian Wu replied quickly and modestly.

"Tian Wu, don't be so modest. Previously when that Lian Xiong was attacking me, even I wouldn't be able to respond in time to your speed if I didn't prepare beforehand." Duan Ling Tian shook his head.

The strength that Feng Tian Wu demonstrated at that time had also taken him by surprise.

Unfortunately, by the time he regained his senses, Feng Tian Wu had already retracted her Origin Energy and Fire Concept, leaving no chance for him to probe her using his Spiritual Energy.

However, he was certain that the strength that Feng Tian Wu currently possessed was in no way inferior to him.

He felt a jolt in his heart as his Spiritual Energy stretched out instantly and swept towards Feng Tian Wu. He was trying to investigate her strength.

In the next instance, he immediately figured out Feng Tian Wu's cultivation base.

Ignorance was bliss. The moment Duan Ling Tian figured it out, he was so shocked that he was left speechless for quite a while. His mind went completely blank, and he stood there for a long time as though he was possessed.

In the next second, he muttered to himself inaudibly, "H-How's this possible?! T-Tian Wu's only at the Third Level Void Interpretation?!"

From Duan Ling Tian's Spiritual Energy's investigation, Feng Tian Wu's cultivation base was not even a step in the Fourth Level Void Interpretation. It was only at the Third Level Void Interpretation.

Just a mere Third Level Void Interpretation martial artist and yet she could help him block Lian Xiong's attack?

He instantly became a little doubtful

However, the moment he remembered the scene where Feng Tian Wu crippled Lian Xiong, the disciple of Blade Sect's arm, he could not help but feel shaken for a while. "Lian Xiong is an Eight Level Void Interpretation martial artist who has comprehended the Eighth Level Intermediate Sword Concept. That means that Tian Wu's strength is definitely better than his if she could sever his arm before he could react in time! S-Still, Tian Wu is indeed only a Third Level Void Interpretation martial artist. Could it be that the Concept that Tian Wu comprehended is the Fire Concept?" The moment Duan Ling Tian thought of this, he immediately knew he had his answer.

Feng Tian Wu had a Fire Spirit Body. The speed that she comprehended the Fire Concept could be considered as very fast.

Basically, she would not encounter any bottleneck in the process of comprehending the Fire Concept. Apart from that, if she had some assistance from Fire Concept Fragments, the speed that she comprehended the Fire Concept would leave all martial artists who did not possess the Fire Spirit Body blushing in shame.

'B-But, even if she has the Fire Concept Fragment for her cultivation, she shouldn't have been able to win against Lian Xiong with just her Third Level Void Interpretation right?' Duan Ling Tian became more perplexed as he pondered over it.

Lian Xiong was an Eighth Level Void Interpretation martial artist who had comprehended the Eight Level Intermediate Sword Concept. With the help of the spirit saber, his strength was equivalent to the strength of over 270 ancient horned dragons.

With Tian Wu's Third Level Void Interpretation cultivation base, even if she used the Grade Three Spirit Whip that he had refined for her, the most she could demonstrate was the strength of 68

ancient horned dragons.

A Third Level Void Interpretation martial artist had a strength of 40 ancient horned dragons if all the Origin Energy in the body was unleashed.

The Grade Three Spirit Whip that he personally refined gave a 70% boost. That was equivalent to the strength of 28 ancient horned dragons.

The two of them added up together would be the strength of exactly 68 ancient horned dragons!

'In other words, even if Tian Wu has comprehended the first Level Advance Fire Concept, along with the strength of 68 ancient horned dragons, her strength would still only be at about 268 ancient horned dragons. It's still a far cry from Lian Xiong's strength! Well, unless she has comprehended the Second Level Advance Fire Concept. In that case, she would have a strength of 368 ancient horned dragons if she unleashes all of her strength. That would be enough for her to beat Lian Xiong!' Duan Ling Tian's mind was whirring rapidly as he tried to make sense of the information in his mind.

While he was still mulling over the information in his head, he suddenly gasped. "It would still be impossible for Tian Wu to elevate her Fire Concept to such a level in such a short period of time even if she had the Fire Concept Fragment to aid her. Hmm, in that case, the only plausible explanation is the Profound Assimilation Formation!"

Blade Sect had the Profound Assimilation Formation as well.

If it was the Profound Assimilation Formation that allowed Feng Tian Wu to go through such a transformation, then all of these would not be so surprising anymore.

"The Profound Assimilation Formation is the Inscription Formation that was created by the Rebirth Martial Emperor. For an innate spirit body like Tian Wu's Fire Spirit Body, it would have an extraordinary effect compared to ordinary people." After going through the Rebirth Martial Emperor's memory, Duan Ling Tian very quickly found the reason.

Not only that, based on the Rebirth Martial Emperor's judgment, the Profound Assimilation Formation would tremendously elevate an innate spirit body that was far beyond the imagination of ordinary people. "That's to say, there's a possibility that Tian Wu's Fire Concept is not as simple as being at the Third Level Advance stage!"

The instance he muttered this sentence to himself, Duan Ling Tian discreetly gasped.

"Duan Ling Tian, I never thought that you knew such an exceptional stunning beauty like Miss Feng. This is amazing!" A voice entered Duan Ling Tian's ears and woke him from his daze. It was none other than Huang Daniu who was talking to him.

Rolling his eyes at Huang Daniu, Duan Ling Tian scoffed as he answered, "Could it be that you thought everybody I know is a big blockhead like you?"

Apart from Duan Ling Tian and Huang Daniu, the other people standing close by, including Guo Chong and Qi Yu, could not suppress the laughter boiling up from their chests.

Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh!

• • •

All of a sudden, the sound of a gust of faint wind whistling resonated from afar and converged into two gusts without any warning.

Upon hearing the noise, the four major sects present on the scene immediately looked toward the source with their eyes alert.

With just a glance, they could see two groups of people making their way toward them with great strength and vigor. In just a short while, they had already arrived and came to a halt at once.

"It's the Skywolf Fort people!"

"And the Emotion Severing people as well!"

Many of Blade Sect's and Empyrean Temple's disciples immediately called out in a low voice.

As two of the four major forces in the southern district of the northern desert, Blade Sect and the Empyrean Temple had a more profound understanding of Skywolf Fort and Emotion Severing Sect than Five Element Sect who came from the eastern district of the northern desert and Sun Moon Sect who came from the western district of the northern desert.

"Skywolf Fort!" Long before the Skywolf Fort's people appeared, Duan Ling Tian's gaze had already locked on four out of five people who were leading the group — three old men and one middle-aged man.

Meng Li, Ning Can, Yu Kang, and Feng Wei.

These four people were part of the five Vice Fort Masters. They were also the people who chased him and tried to kill him when he was making his way to the Blade Sect camp from the Ancient Desert City with a group of Blade Sect's people previously.

Chapter 938: Five Inscription Formations

There was no doubt Meng Li and the other three had immediately noticed Duan Ling Tian's gaze on them.

If it was before, they would definitely look at Duan Ling Tian with a look of contempt. However, they did not dare to do that anymore after they found out about the relationship between Duan Ling Tian and that Young Miss.

Although they were not going to worsen the conflict between Skywolf Fort and Duan Ling Tian, they would not take the initiative to apologize to him either,

Put aside the fact that Zi Shang would definitely be unhappy if they had done that and would become unwilling to work on behalf of Skywolf Fort with all his might, Skywolf Fort was also unwilling to embarrass themselves in the front of all the major forces.

For this reason, they chose to ignore Duan Ling Tian completely instead.

However, the fact that they chose to ignore him did not mean that it could wipe out Duan Ling Tian's raging fire. After sweeping a cold and sharp glance at Meng Li and the other three, Duan Ling Tian's attention finally landed on the white-clad young man behind them.

Zi Shang!

When Duan Ling Tian looked at him, he was already staring at Duan Ling Tian.

Moreover, when Duan Ling Tian looked at him, Zi Shang's Voice Transmission had already entered his ears in a timely manner, "Duan Ling Tian, I didn't think your life would be so long. Four Vice Fort Masters attacked you at the same time and yet you still survived, huh?"

Upon hearing Zi Shang's words, Duan Ling Tian's face turned so

dark that it was absolutely appalling.

Despite the fact that he could already guess that it was Zi Shang who was pulling the strings behind the curtains when the four Vice Fort Masters brought ten Skywolf Fort elders to chase after him, the second he received this confirmation from Zi Shang personally, his emotion was still greatly affected. In just an instant, frosts gleamed in his eyes and a killing intent was apparent in them.

"Zi Shang, the Martial Emperor's secret treasure will be your grave!" After taking a deep breath and calming his agitated emotions, Duan Ling Tian sent a sharp Voice Transmission to Zi Shang's ears. There was not a hint of emotions in his words at all.

"This is also what I wanted to tell you!" To Duan Ling Tian's surprise, Zi Shang who would usually admit defeat in front of him previously was acting particularly tough today. It was as though he was confident that he would be able to kill Duan Ling Tian.

"It seems like your strength has improved a lot, huh? Otherwise, you won't be acting so confident now." Duan Ling Tian sneered.

"It's easy for me to kill you, you know," ZI Shang responded coldly.

"I'm looking forward to it!" Duan Ling Tian's eyes shone even more brightly as he said each word clearly.

Looking at one of the five old men who was leading the Skywolf Fort, Hui Kong, the Empyrean Temple Abbot, asked with his ten fingers linked together, "Amitabha... Vice Fort Master Luo, Fort Master Qing didn't come this time?"

The latter was none other than Luo Fu, the leader of the Five Vice Sect Leaders in Skywolf Fort.

"Abbot Hui Kong." Faced with Hui Kong, the leader of the Empyrean Temple, Luo Fu did not dare to slack and quickly replied, "Our Fort Master is recently caught up with some matters. For this reason, he doesn't have the time to come."

Hui Kong's eyes gleamed as he smiled and replied, "Such a big matter as the Martial Emperor's secret treasure and Fort Master Qing doesn't even have the time to come. Looks like the issue that he's caught up with recently must be of great importance."

"Yes, very important." Luo Fu nodded his head. However, the corner of his mouth twitched a little.

At this moment, the other four Vice Fort Masters of Skywolf Fort immediately turned awkward as well.

It was very hard for them to imagine what the expressions of these people from the other five major forces would be like if they found out that the reason the Fort Master of Skywolf Fort did not come was to become a steed for a girl.

Naturally, they would not disclose this to anyone.

If this story spread out, putting aside the fact that Skywolf Fort would become the laughing stock of the northern desert, even the disciples from Skywolf Fort would not be able to accept this matter as well.

"Sect Leader Pei, it's been awhile since we last met. I didn't know you've already taken over the position of the Sect Leader of Emotion Severing Sect... Greetings to you." After greeting Luo Fu, Hui Kong looked at the leader of Emotion Severing Sect. He was a plainly clothed middle-aged man with a frosty expression on his face.

That plain-clothed middle-aged man was none other than Pei An, the Sect Leader of Emotion Severing Sect.

Even when Pei An was faced with Hui Kong, the Empyrean Temple Abbot, his face still remained cold and aloof. With a faint nod, he casually greeted him, "Abbot Hui Kong."

However, Hui Kong did not appear to be offended by this. After letting out a faint smile, he stood there quietly.

Meanwhile, the senior officials of the six major sects present on

the scene greeted each other.

Time continued to pass quietly.

Not long after, the sun began to set. The sky was covered with the glow of sunset. It was crimson, making the entire sky appeared like it was painted with a tinge of red. The entire scene was absolutely breathtaking.

"It's time." Suddenly the group of senior officials leading the six major forces exchanged glances with each other before swooping down one by one. They entered the sophisticated mountainous terrain.

"Let's go!" When Duan Ling Tian and the other disciples from the six major forces saw this, they hastily followed suit. They did not dare to hesitate at all.

They knew that the Martial Emperor's secret treasure was about to open at this moment.

When they were on the way here, the six major forces' disciples, including Duan Ling Tian and the other Five Element Sect's disciples, had learned some facts about the Martial Emperor's secret treasure from the senior officials of their respective sects.

The Martial Emperor's secret treasure had a specific opening time. It would only open for a day, and if they did not enter on that day, they would not have the opportunity to enter again.

Naturally, there was a time limit for entering but there was none for exiting.

The Inscription Formation on the gate of the Martial Emperor's secret treasure only prohibited one from entering but not exiting.

Additionally, it was said that the Martial Emperor's secret treasure that they would be entering this time was buried deep underground. Many Inscription Formations that possessed great destructive power encircled it.

If somebody tried to destroy the gate forcefully, the Inscription Formations that possessed great destructive power would automatically activate and shatter the entire Martial Emperor's secret treasure in just one blow. As a result, the vast number of treasures inside the Martial Emperor's secret would be forever buried underground as well.

It was precisely for this reason that all of the forces who knew about the existence of this Martial Emperor's secret treasure did not dare to act as they pleased. They could only follow the rules set by the Martial Emperor book-by-book, and let the young disciples who were under the age of forty to enter and search for the Profundity Fragment that they needed.

Very soon, under the guidance of the senior officials of the six major forces, Duan Ling Tian and the other disciples of the six major forces had arrived at a spacious valley. It was the valley that they were hovering above earlier.

The valley was spacious, and there were bushes all over the place. Nothing appeared particularly eye-catching over here.

"The entrance to the Martial Emperor's secret treasure is here?" The disciples from the six major forces, including Duan Ling Tian, had bewilderment written on their faces.

Duan Ling Tian lifted an eyebrow as he extended his Spiritual Energy. In just a short while, he found a sign in one of the bushes in the valley. A dense Inscription Formation aura could be felt in that direction.

As the person whose memory was merged with the life-long Inscription memory of the Rebirth Martial Emperor, Duan Ling Tian had a profound understanding of Inscription Formations. He easily recognized the few Inscription Formations there.

There were a total of five Inscription Formations.

The one placed at the highest point was the Inscription

Formation that set a fixed opening time for the secret treasure. It would only be opened once, and there was a specific time. Under the Inscription Formation was another Inscription Formation that was created based on the Age Measuring Pearl. That was exactly the Inscription Formation that verified the age of the martial artists who entered the secret treasure.

Apart from that, there were another three Inscription Formations underneath this Inscription Formation. When Duan Ling Tian found them, he could not help but gasp in shock.

"The Martial Emperor powerhouse was really daring! He even set up three Killing Formations by the entrance. Once these three Killing Formations are triggered, even a Ninth Level Martial Monarch Stage powerhouse would be slaughtered instantly!" Duan Ling Tian learned about the horrors of these three Killing Formations from the Rebirth Martial Emperor's memory.

Other than using valuable and precious materials, these three Killing Formations also needed the Spiritual Energy of a Martial Emperor Stage to set up. Every intersecting Inscription inside could only be inscribed by a Martial Emperor Stage Inscription Master.

'Looks like that Martial Emperor was most likely an Inscription Master,' Duan Ling Tian thought to himself.

Other than observing everything in the valley, Feng Tian Wu who was by Duan Ling Tian's side sometimes watched Duan Ling Tian as well. It just so happened that she saw the glum look on his face. For that reason, she asked with her Voice Transmission, "Big Brother Duan, did you find something?"

"Yes." Duan Ling Tian nodded his head as he replied with his Voice Transmission, "If I didn't sense it wrongly, the entrance of the Martial Emperor's secret treasure is underneath the bush right there. Apart from having an Inscription Formation that set the opening time and another Inscription Formation that inspects the

age of the people who enter the secret treasure, there are another three Inscription Formations that are extremely horrifying and lethal."

While speaking, Duan Ling Tian looked in the direction where he could feel the Inscription Formations.

When Duan Ling Tian finished saying this using his Voice Transmission, the senior officials of the six major forces hovered above the bushes in tacit agreement as they casually made their moves at the same time. They immediately cleared the bushes away.

Every senior official from the six major forces was at Void Transformation or above. They controlled their Origin Energies and turned their Concepts into Sabers. The bushes were cleared away in a blink of an eye.

After the bushes were cleared away, a magnificent door that lay on the ground appeared before everyone's eyes.

The door was set in the surface of the ground. Its design was huge yet simple. There was not a trace of dust that could be seen on it, and it emitted a great fluctuation.

The great fluctuation that poured out seemed to indicate the long journey of time that the great door had gone through.

Upon hearing Duan Ling Tian's words, a hint of alertness could be seen on Feng Tian Wu's delicate face. "So, what should we do now? Do we still go in?"

"Relax. The three Killing Formations only target people who enter forcefully and also those who are over forty. Other than these, the three Killing Formations will not be activated at all," Duan Ling Tian reassured her.

When Feng Tian Wu heard this, she was immediately hit by a pang of realization. "Ah, so that's how it is."

"Is this the entrance to the Martial Emperor's secret treasure?"

"This great door appears to be extremely ancient. I wonder how long it has existed?"

...

The young disciples of the six major forces followed suit behind the senior officials of their respective sects. As they looked at the gigantic door on the ground, they buried their heads together in heated discussions. They had a curious look on their faces.

Upon hearing the discussions of the young disciples from each of the major sects, Luo Fu, the leader of the Five Vice Fort Masters of Skywolf Fort slowly explained, "The Martial Emperor's secret treasure below the great door is said to have existed for a thousand years! The Martial Emperor who left behind this secret treasure died a natural death a thousand years ago."

"A thousand years?"

All of the young disciples from the major forces, including Duan Ling Tian, were immediately taken aback.

Chapter 939: Opening the Martial Emperor's Secret Treasure!

Setting an Inscription Formation and leave the secret treasure behind to be opened a thousand years later, just how powerful was this method?

Apart from Duan Ling Tian and the other senior officials who had long known about all these from some other sources, everyone else was completely stunned and bewildered. Disbelief was obvious in their eyes.

The majesty of a Martial Emperor was truly beyond their imagination!

Even Zhang Yan, who stood quietly behind Pei An all this while could not but help but feel slightly uneasy about this at this moment.

"This Zhang Yan... seems to be slightly different from last time." Earlier, when the Emotion Severing Sect's people had just arrived, Duan Ling Tian casually darted a few glances at him and did not pay much attention to him. Due to this, he did not notice the slight changes in Zhang Yan at all.

However, now that he carefully studied him, he immediately noticed some difference in him.

The Zhang Yan now seemed to exude a peculiar and indescribable aura from his body compared to the last few months.

Duan Ling Tian could clearly sense that something had happened to him in these few recent months.

With Duan Ling Tian's curiosity as the catalyst, he extended his Spiritual Energy and swept it toward Zhang Yan. He could immediately feel Zhang Yan's cultivation base — Seventh Level Void Interpretation.

A few months ago, Zhang Yan's cultivation base was at the Sixth Level Void Interpretation so Duan Ling Tian was not surprised that he had made a breakthrough to the Seventh Level Void Interpretation.

After all, Zhang Yan was different from him.

Zhang Yan had left the Darkhan Dynasty a long time ago and came to the northern desert outside of the Foreign Lands. Moreover, he had entered the Emotion Severing Sect and even became Pei An's disciple.

There must be no lack of all sorts of spirit fruits exclusive to a Void Interpretation martial artist during his cultivation. Otherwise, he would not have been able to make a breakthrough to the Sixth Level Void Interpretation in just a few months.

Consuming a large amount of spirit fruit exclusive to a Void Interpretation martial artist also meant that it would be hard for Zhang Yan to raise his cultivation base with the help of the spirit fruits' medicinal efficacy in the future unless he could procure other types of spirit fruits that were exclusive to a Void Interpretation martial artist that he had never consumed before.

"Don't tell me that I've sensed it wrongly?" Duan Ling Tian frowned before he quickly eased up.

When he felt the indescribable and peculiar aura from Zhang Yan earlier, he could also sense a hint of danger on him as well. It was as if Zhang Yan could pose a threat to him now.

When he probed Zhang Yan's current cultivation base with his Spiritual Energy, the first thought that came to his mind was that he might have sensed it wrongly.

Zhang Yan who was at the Seventh Level Void Interpretation would never be a threat to him.

After all, not everyone was like Feng Tian Wu.

After 30 minutes, Tian Gu, the Peak Master of Earth Peak from

Five Element Sect, frowned a little as he murmured inquisitively, "Huh? Why is this Martial Emperor's secret treasure not open yet?"

As soon as Tian Gu's words left his mouth, the outer side of the majestic door lying on the ground immediately shone with a layer of translucent luster before it engulfed the entire door.

Whoosh!

The instance they saw the translucent luster, the people present on the scene erupted into an uproar at once.

"So this is the Inscription Formation?"

"Probably."

. . .

The young disciples from the six major forces were engaged in a heated discussion. Their eyes that were looking at the translucent luster were filled with curiosity.

One of the monk disciples of the Empyrean Temple even flew out curiously and extended a hand to touch the translucent luster. It was as though he wanted to try and feel it.

This Empyrean Temple disciple was extremely fast. He was so fast that nobody else could respond in time.

Duan Ling Tian was the first one to realize what was happening. At that time, that monk disciple from the Empyrean Temple had already touched the translucent luster, and his entire hand was even buried in it.

Duan Ling Tian shook his head. He knew that this Empyrean Temple disciple was beyond help now.

At this moment, Duan Ling Tian could clearly feel the first of the three Killing Formations beginning to whirl. It was apparent that it had been triggered.

The senior officials from the six major forces returned to their senses one by one. Hui Kong, the Empyrean Temple's Abbot's face blanched and he lost his usual cool. He shouted out loud, his previously calm demeanor was nowhere to be seen at the moment, "STOP!"

Hui Kong's shout instantly made many of the disciples from all the forces tremble.

"Abbot, this luster can..." Upon hearing Hui Kong's shout, the monk disciple from the Empyrean Temple, whose hand was already in the luster, did not seem to realize the crisis yet. Instead, it seemed like he was waiting to complimented as he looked at Hui Kong. It was as though he was trying to tell him, "Abbot, I've tested it out! We can go through this luster!"

However, before he could even finish his sentence, the entire valley suddenly shook violently. It was as if an extremely violent earthquake had just taken place, cutting his words off.

Horror dawned on the Empyrean Temple's monk disciple's face at once. At this moment, even if he was extremely stupid and ignorant, he would have realized that he was in trouble.

Without any hesitation, he quickly pulled his hand away from the translucent luster.

Unfortunately, everything was already too late.

The crowd present on the scene did not even see any energy at all. However, without any warning, the monk disciple from the Empyrean Temple momentarily froze. With a 'Bang!', his body blew up as it transformed into a bloody shower in the sky.

It was a good thing that the people nearby managed to escape in time. Otherwise, they would most likely be splashed with his blood.

Even so, the young disciples from each of the forces could not help but gasp. When they looked at the translucent luster shrouding the great door again, hints of dread and fear could be seen in their eyes. With a slightly pale face, Hui Kong warned the other Empyrean Temple's disciples, "All of the disciples from the Empyrean Temple, listen! Unless this luster disappears on its own, none of you are allowed to approach it!"

The other senior officials from the other five great forces, including Five Element Sect, also warned their own disciples.

The young disciples from each of the sects nodded their heads without any hesitation.

Even if they were not cautioned, none of them would dare to get close to that translucent luster now. In their opinions, that translucent luster was no different from a flash flood or a wild beast.

After that Empyrean Temple monk disciple touched that translucent luster, his body had been inexplicably blown up in an instance. They were sincerely scared of this lesson from the bottom of their hearts.

"Big Brother Duan, that was the force from the Killing Transformation?" Feng Tian Wu's Voice Transmission that was accompanied by a trace of fear entered Duan Ling Tian's ears.

"Yes." Duan Ling Tian nodded in response. "Not only that, that was the force of the first of the three Killing Formations. My Spiritual Energy could sense that the other two Killing Formations that are even more powerful have not been triggered yet."

"An even more powerful Killing Formation? How powerful is it?" Feng Tian Wu was shocked by his words.

After a moment of silence, Duan Ling Tian replied Feng Tian Wu through his Voice Transmission, "I don't really know how strong it actually is but let's just put it in this way. Out of the three Killing Formations, if the third one at the bottom is triggered, even a Ninth Level Martial Monarch Stage powerhouse would most likely end up like the Empyrean Temple monk disciple from earlier." His

voice was grave and solemn.

If the third Killing Formation was triggered, it could even kill a Ninth Level Martial Monarch Stage powerhouse?!

Colors drained from Feng Tian Wu's face at once.

From what she could see, a Martial Monarch Stage powerhouse was extremely powerful! Even the Blade Sect had spent quite a fortune for this Martial Emperor's secret treasure, and the reason was none other than to get their hands on the Profundity Fragments so that the sect could give birth to a Martial Monarch Stage powerhouse.

However, a new Martial Monarch Stage powerhouse would only be at the First Level Martial Monarch Stage. Such an existence was just like a tiny ant in front of a Ninth Level Martial Monarch Stage powerhouse. It was not worth mentioning at all.

However, the Killing Formation by the entrance of that Martial Emperor's secret treasure could even kill a Ninth Level Martial Monarch Stage powerhouse in just a flash, let alone the group of martial artists present on the scene right now who had not even entered the Martial Monarch Stage.

After the death of that Empyrean Temple's monk disciple, the entire vast valley regained its tranquility again. However, very soon, another loud bang could be heard in the sky.

Many people were taken aback by surprise, and they instantly trembled in reflex.

RUMBLE!!

Under the watchful eyes of the others, the great door shrouded in the translucent luster gradually opened and revealed its true face beneath.

Under the door was a platform that emerged before everyone's eyes.

On the side of the high platform, there was a stone ladder that went as far as eyes could see. It led down deep into the ground. Overlooking from top to bottom, the inside was painted entirely black.

As for the other three sides, all they could see was a boundless depth that was just like a bottomless abyss.

"Flight Prohibiting Formation?" Just when almost everyone had their attention on the high platform and the stone ladder, Duan Ling Tian's Spiritual Energy that had been extended and went past the five Inscription Formations could clearly feel the aura emitting out of the arrays of Inscription Formations surrounding the high platform.

That was none other than the Flight Prohibiting Formation.

The Flight Prohibiting Formation was an Inscription Formation that barred a martial artist at the Void stage and above from flying once they entered the secret treasure — well, unless one's strength was powerful enough to overcome the shackle of that Inscription Formation. Otherwise, all one could do was walk on both feet when one entered the secret treasure.

'This Flight Prohibiting Formation must have also been left behind by that Martial Emperor. In that case, even if a Ninth Level Martial Monarch Stage powerhouse enters, he would have to walk on both feet as well,' Duan Ling Tian thought to himself.

Despite the fact that there were many Inscription Masters present among the crowd of senior officials from the six major sects who could more or less sense the aura from the Flight Prohibiting Formation, they could not pinpoint exactly what that Inscription Formation was.

After all, they were different from Duan Ling Tian who bore the Inscription memory of the Rebirth Martial Emperor.

The Rebirth Martial Emperor had experienced two

reincarnations before. During his second life, he had studied the Inscription Formations to the highest level. Moreover, he had created many Inscriptions and Inscription Formations on his own, and he also understood all of the common Inscriptions and Inscription Formations that could be found in Cloud Continent.

Naturally, there were also some other uncommon Inscriptions and Inscription Formations that the Rebirth Martial Emperor had only heard of but did not understand the exact engraving and set-up methods.

Just like that Split-Unite Inscription Formation that Duan Ling Tian previously obtained in the Sword Monarch Treasure that could allow a spirit sword to split into nine and combine nine into one. The Rebirth Martial Emperor really did not know how to engrave and set that formation up.

"With my current Second Level Void Transformation Spiritual Energy, I wonder how many swords I can control now if I cultivate that Nine-Tribulation Sword Control Technique?" When Duan Ling Tian recalled the Sword Monarch Treasure, his heart gave a little jolt.

Only now did he remember that when he received the Quasi Royal Grade Spirit Sword and the three pieces of Profundity Fragments in the Sword Monarch Treasure, he also received a set of sword skill that was left behind by that white-clad Sword Monarch.

Nine-Tribulation Sword Control Technique!

To cultivate the Nine-Tribulation Sword Control Technique, one would require a strong Spiritual Energy to be able to simultaneously manipulate nine swords that could soar through the sky and cast the skill perfectly.

Chapter 940: Bottomless Abyss

"Is the Martial Emperor's secret treasure at the bottom of the stone ladder?"

"It should be. I was wondering what will show up behind the magnificent door that lies on the ground. I didn't expect to see a lonely and solitary platform there instead."

"After we go through the great door, we'll land on that high platform and then continue down where the stone ladder leads us. What lies at the end of the stone ladder is still a mystery to us."

"The unknown is always the most terrifying. It seems like we must constantly be on our watch after we enter the Martial Emperor's secret treasure."

• • •

The young disciples from each sect buried their head together in heated discussions. Most of them were apprehensive.

Some even thought of abandoning the quest.

However, as soon as the thought of abandoning the quest rose up in their minds, they were hit with a pang mentally the moment they recalled the vast amount of treasures stored in the Martial Emperor's secret treasure. Immediately, the thought was quickly dismissed.

As the saying went, 'Wealth comes with danger!'

If one did not even have the courage to take any risk, one would be doomed to a mediocre life forever.

"If I can get more than two Profundity Fragments, I'll definitely soar up to the sky!" Many of the young disciples from each sect were saying the same thing.

Huang Daniu, who was standing close to Duan Ling Tian, smiled as he said, "It seems like the distribution of Profundity Fragments in the other sects is same as our Five Element Sect as well!"

"Of course. Otherwise, who would risk their lives for the Profundity Fragment?" Duan Ling Tian was not surprised.

From what he could see, each of the major forces knew how to give-and-take to stir up their disciples' enthusiasm.

Someone blurted out, "The great door of the Martial Emperor's secret treasure is now open. Shall we enter?"

However, no one was willing to take the first step. One by one, everyone's eyes fell on the layer of translucent luster shrouding the wide open great door.

Ever since the monk disciple from the Empyrean Temple was blasted to death, this layer of translucent luster had cast a shadow over their hearts.

If the luster was still there, they would not go any further.

Whoosh!

All of a sudden, a faint sound reverberated in the air.

Under the watchful eyes of the crowd, the translucent luster vanished without a trace as if it was never there in the first place.

"It's finally gone!"

"No one would have dared to take another step if it's still there."

• • •

The young disciples from each of the major sects let out a huge sigh of relief.

"Shall we go in?"

At the same time, many young disciples were staring at the senior officials of the sects that they belonged to. Doubts could be seen in their eyes.

Before the leaders had a chance to speak, another layer of grey luster appeared on top of the wide-open great door. Apart from

Duan Ling Tian, it elicited looks of horror from the people from each sect.

Duan Ling Tian became slightly speechless when he saw the expressions on the crowd's faces.

'It's merely an Inscription Formation that examines the ages of those who enters the gate. Is it necessary to be this melodramatic?' Duan Ling Tian thought to himself.

Long after the translucent luster had vanished, he could already sense that another age-examining Inscription Formation had begun to activate.

"What's going on?"

"The door's open, and the translucent luster has disappeared. So why is there another layer of gray luster appearing right now?"

"Will this layer of grey luster be like the previous translucent luster? Will it take our lives with just a simple touch?"

...

The young disciples from each sect were worried sick, nobody dared to give it a try.

Even the senior officials of each sect had a look of dread on their faces.

"Let's go!" Duan Ling Tian motioned to Feng Tian Wu, Huang Da Niu, Su Li, and Zhang Shou Yong who stood beside him as he flew out all alone by himself. He charged straight at the grey luster with a very fast speed.

Within seconds, Duan Ling Tian had arrived in the vicinity of the grey luster.

"He's going to die!" When Zi Sang and Hu Fei noticed Duan Ling Tian's action, a sneer crept up on the corners of their mouths. Both of them were certain that Duan Ling Tian would die.

"Duan Ling Tian!" Xuan Bei and Zhang Yan, who stood with the

group of Empyrean Temple and Emotion Severing Sect, raised their eyebrows right away. They were both taken aback by Duan Ling Tian's actions.

Apart from Tian Gu who seemed to be lost in his own thoughts, horror dawned on the crowd of Five Element Sect's senior officials.

"This lad is too reckless!" Guo Chong and Qi Yu were completely horrified. At this moment, Duan Ling Tian had already touched the grey luster. Even if there was something amiss with that grey luster, it was too late for them to go to his rescue.

Although almost everyone felt that Duan Ling Tian would be annihilated, he entered the layer of the grey luster smoothly as though nothing was amiss.

Through the ray of the setting sun that spilled all over the world like blood, the crowd could see the shadow behind the grey luster that landed firmly on the high platform inside.

"Duan Ling Tian is alright!"

"Looks like the grey luster is not lethal at all."

• • •

The disciples from each sect finally came to an understanding.

Before everyone else could figure out what was happening, a flash of a fiery spirit-like figure had already followed suit behind Duan Ling Tian and passed through the grey luster to enter the great door.

That was none other than Feng Tian Wu!

Su Li, Zhang Shou Yong, and Huang Daniu were still taken aback by Duan Ling Tian's actions, Feng Tian Wu was the only person who trailed after him like a shadow. It clearly showed her unconditional trust in Duan Ling Tian.

"I never thought that a few guys like us can't even compete with a woman." Huang Daniu shook his head and smiled wryly before following suit as well.

Su Li and Zhang Shou Yong exchanged glances with each other and smiled wryly as well before following suit to enter the grey luster and set foot on the mysterious platform under the great door.

"I understand now!" At this moment, Tian Gu, the Peak Master of Earth Peak from Five Element Sect, yelled in a deep voice, "This grey luster is the Inscription Formation that examines the age of those who enter!"

The moment Tian Gu's words left his mouth, the Inscription Masters present were enlightened as well.

At the same time, they began to wonder how Duan Ling Tian knew the grey luster would not cause him any harm.

Could it be that he was an Inscription Master too?

If he really was an Inscription Master, how knowledgeable was he on the study of Inscriptions that he was the first among all the Inscription Masters to figure it out?

Whoosh!

Very soon, another person from the Five Element Sect went through the grey luster and entered the great door as well. That was none other than Nangong Chen.

Now that Nangong Chen had entered, Nangong Yi definitely would not miss out as well.

Next, the Five Element Sect's disciples followed suit one by one like a shower of lights entering the gate.

"Hurmph! He's merely lucky!" Zi Shang who stood behind the five Vice Sect Leaders of Skywolf Fort had a glum expression his face.

At first, he thought Duan Ling Tian would be killed by the Inscription Formation from the Martial Emperor's secret treasure.

However, instead of being killed, Duan Ling Tian managed to become the first person that entered the great door and snatched the limelight.

"What are you rushing for? You can just enter right now and kill him directly, no?" A gloomy, hoarse, and ancient voice sounded in Zi Shang's mind. It took him by surprise.

The moment he heard that, Zi Shang's eyes lit up immediately.

"Kill!"

Without even waiting for the instructions from the five Vice Fort Leaders of Skywolf Fort, he charged out and passed through grey luster to enter the Martial Emperor's secret treasure.

A shocking amount of killing intent emitted out of his body.

Under the shroud of the grey luster, a group of Five Element Sect's disciples, with Duan Ling Tian as their leader, were standing on the high platform below the widely open majestic door. They were all looking at the surroundings inquisitively.

Feng Tian Wu, Su Li, and Zhang Shou Yong were by Duan Ling Tian's side as well.

The high platform was square. Three out of the four directions were in shrouded in total darkness. It was deep and boundless. It stretched out as far as the eyes could see like a bottomless deep abyss.

Only the last direction had a stone ladder that led to the bottom.

Huang Daniu frowned as he murmured to himself, "This stone ladder stretches as far as the eyes can see. I wonder where it leads to."

"No matter where it leads to, we have no other choice. We can only follow its way down," Duan Ling Tian replied.

"Why don't we just try flying in from the other three sides?" Su Li suggested.

"Fly?" Upon hearing Su Li's words, Duan Ling Tian smiled wryly. The moment they entered this high platform, they had already entered the range of that Flight Prohibiting Formation.

'You want to fly? Sure, you can. However, you need to have a strength that's equivalent to a Martial Emperor first.'

Just as Duan Ling Tian was about to explain, the colors on his face changed. It was as though he had sensed something, he lifted up his head abruptly and looked at the sky above.

A white figure appeared there and transformed into a white lightning in a blink of an eye as it charged directly at him.

"Zi Shang!" Duan Ling Tian's face turned dark instantly. He recognized the white-clad young man that was charging at him immediately — it was Zi Shang.

It did not cross his mind that Zi Shang's speed had already become so fast.

In a flash, he had already arrived before Duan Ling Tian.

Bang!

An explosion shook the air. That came from Zi Shang, who was in front of Duan Ling Tian, lifting a fist to punch him. The flames on his fist soared up accompanied by the waves of sharp blue wind aura, it burned even more vigorously as time went by.

His punch was like a strong mountain that pounced at Duan Ling Tian. His speed was so swift that Duan Ling Tian did not even have the time to block his attack. All he could do was instinctively retreat.

"How dare you!" Almost at the same time, a feminine shout resonated in the air. That was none other than Feng Tian Wu who had begun to make her move.

She was entirely shrouded in soaring flames. It was as if she had transformed into a true fire spirit as she pounded at Zi Shang who

was charging at Duan Ling Tian.

Whoosh!

A long whip that was as long as a spirit snake shot up directly at Zi Shang's outstretched fist.

At this moment, under the watchful eyes of the others, Duan Ling Tian and Zi Shang, who was thrown off from the high platform, swayed for a second before dropping down uncontrollably in an extremely fast speed. It was as though they were going to smash into the bottomless abyss.

At the same time, the long whip that Feng Tian Wu fired out also missed. Zi Shang dropped sharply at a rapid speed, contrary to her expectations.

"Big Brother Duan!" Feng Tian Wu who stood by the side of the high platform stared at the purple figure that was slowly disappearing from sight into the bottomless abyss. Her expression changed abruptly. She did not even bother thinking about the consequences as she leaped downward.

It was only after she had taken a leap that she understood why her Big Brother Duan and that Zi Shang would fall uncontrollably.

As it turned out, no matter how much one tried to activate one's Origin Energy, one would not be able to hover in the air in this place.

"Miss Tian Wu!"

Horror dawned on Su Li, Zhang Shou Yong, and Huang Daniu's faces immediately. As they stood at the edge of the high platform watching the falling Feng Tian Wu, they did not know what was happening at all.

"Eh? Why can't we fly here?" At the same time, a startled voice entered their ears. It struck them dumb like a lightning.

Chapter 941: The Strength of 1000 Ancient Horned Dragons!

After dodging Zi Shang's attack and exiting the high platform, Duan Ling Tian originally wanted to use all his might to cast an attack in the air and rely on the air resistance to generate recoil so he could push his body back on the high platform. After all, there was a Flight Prohibiting Formation here that prevented him from flying.

However, he discovered after several tries that the air in the surroundings did not produce even the slightest bit of resistance. His energy swept out and vanished without a trace. It was as if it was buried in a bale of cotton as though it was never cast in the first place. Let alone explosions, not even the sound of wind whistling could be heard at all.

"What's happening?!" Deeply in shock, Duan Ling Tian ransacked the memories of the Martial Emperor's secret treasure in his mind.

Finally, he managed to figure out the answer.

"So it's like that huh? Apart from forbidding martial artists from flying, the resistance in the air would disappear as well if a Flight Prohibiting Formation is inscribed and laid out by a Martial Emperor Stage Inscription Master." Horror immediately dawned on Duan Ling Tian's face as soon as he figured out the reason.

At this moment, he could feel that he was falling faster and faster. If things continued like this, he would most likely be smashed into a pulp of bloody meat when he reached the bottom.

Whoosh!

Suddenly, a faint sound reverberated by Duan Ling Tian's ears. It took him by surprise so much that he could not help but instantly narrow his eyes.

When he turned his head over to the source of the sound, he

found out Zi Shang, who was falling together with him, was still trying to attack him under such circumstances.

Milky Origin Energy vibrated in Zi Shang's hand before it transformed into a wave of majestic crimson flame. When it merged with waves of solidified blue wind chi, the flame suddenly rose without any warning.

At the same time, the Heaven and Earth Phenomenon above Zi Shang was continuously transforming too.

Initially, it was only 100 silhouettes of ancient horned dragons.

Subsequently, another 200 silhouettes of ancient horned dragons appeared as well.

It was then followed closely by the emergence of another 400 silhouettes of ancient horned dragons.

Finally, as the blue chi entered the flames, it rose up even higher and another 100 silhouettes of ancient horned dragons made their appearance.

"That's why. I've wondered how it's possible for this Zi Shang who's only at the Seventh Level Void Interpretation to have such a fast speed and could appear before my eyes in just a blink of an eye." Duan Ling Tian could not help but squint his eyes immediately when he saw this scene. A look of dismay filled his face at once. "So it turns out that he has comprehended the First Level Advance Fire Concept and Third Level Advance Wind Concept! Moreover, his Fire Concept has an additional strength of 100 ancient horned dragons after he fuels his Fire Concept with his Wind Concept!" Duan Ling Tian murmured to himself before he gasped.

It did not even cross his mind that Zi Shang's strength would be so greatly elevated after just a few months.

He could still remember that time during the Martial Competition of the Ten Dynasties that was organized by Skywolf Fort, Zi Shang was merely a Second Level Void Interpretation martial artist who had comprehended two Concepts. At that time, his Wind Concept was slightly more powerful than the other one, but it was not really that powerful either.

Today, when he came across Zi Shang again, he immediately used his Spiritual Energy to probe his current cultivation base — it was at the Seventh Level Void Interpretation.

He was not surprised by this at all.

Although Zi Shang was only a Second Level Void Interpretation martial artist previously, Skywolf Fort would certainly spare no effort in training him if they really saw him as the trump card for entering the Martial Emperor's secret treasure this time.

The spirit fruits in Skywolf Fort would undoubtedly be used on him as well.

With Skywolf Fort's strength, it was not a difficult task to raise Zi Shang from a Second Level Void Interpretation martial artist to a Seventh Level Void Interpretation martial artist in a few months.

However, the problem was a martial artist's cultivation base could be raised up in a short period of time using spirit fruits, but it was different for Concepts. No matter how many Concept Fragments one had, the speed of elevating a Concept was ultimately limited.

"Perhaps the Skywolf Fort has a Profound Assimilation Formation as well. However, just the Profound Assimilation Formation alone is not enough for Zi Shang to have such a great improvement! Hmm, unless he's like me, and he can merge his Spiritual Energy with it ..." The moment Duan Ling Tian thought of this, the expression on his face froze instantly. He narrowed his eyes as he murmured, "Don't tell me a soul remnant that might belong to a Martial Emperor is hidden inside Zi Shang's body? Perhaps Zi Sang has some methods that allowed him to obtain a benefit that's the same as mine in the Profound Assimilation

Formation?"

Duan Ling Tian was immediately hit by a pang of realization.

Although it was only a soul remnant, it was still a soul remnant that might belong to a Martial Emperor. It was not unusual if it had some unique techniques.

Moreover, the Profound Assimilation Formation was only an Inscription Formation that was arranged by a Martial Monarch Stage Inscription Master, it was not difficult for a Martial Emperor's soul to tamper with it.

"Huh?" At this moment, Duan Ling Tian who casually swept a glance at Zi Shang noticed the seven-foot long spear in his palm as he lifted his hand up — It was a spirit spear.

After the wind chi and flames had integrated with the spear, the seven-foot long spear was completely covered in the wind chi and flames. It was enshrouded with blue and red energy.

Whoosh!

At the same time, another 78 silhouettes of ancient horned dragons appeared on top of Zi Shang's head.

Duan Ling Tian was no longer surprised when he saw this.

When Zi Shang took out the seven-foot long spear, he could already see that it was a grade two spirit spear.

A grade two spirit weapon that was crafted by an ordinary grade two weapon craftsman could only have a 78% boost at the most, similar to the seven-foot long spear that was in Zi Shang's hand right now.

The Heaven and Earth Phenomenon above Zi Shang accumulated into 878 silhouettes of ancient horned dragons. It was accumulating its strength, waiting to be launched at any given time.

Swish!

All of a sudden, a sword materialized in Duan Ling Tian's hand. It was a sword that constantly emitted an extraordinary aura — it was the Quasi Royal Grade Spirit Sword.

When the grade two spirit spear trembled in Zi Shang's hand and charged towards him, he transfused his Origin Energy into the Quasi Royal Grade Spirit Swords without any hesitation. It was an action that was as easy as breaking dry branches.

In an instant, the Heaven and Earth Energy whirled above Duan Ling Tian and rapidly solidified into the Heaven and Earth Phenomenon.

The silhouettes of 400 ancient horned dragons appeared out of thin air.

A First Level Void Transformation martial artist's full strength was equal to the strength of 200 ancient horned dragons!

The Quasi Royal Grade Spirit had a 100% boost. With Duan Ling Tian's Origin Energy as the foundation, it had another boost of 200 ancient horned dragons' strength!

The two of them added together equaled to the strength of 400 ancient horned dragons.

— and Duan Ling Tian had not even activated his Concept yet.

A rush of Concept entered the Origin Energy like shadows, they intertwined around the Quasi Royal Grade Spirit Sword. A khaki energy immediately appeared, followed closely by purple lightning that was like a shadow.

Another wave of tyrannical aura appeared on the Quasi Royal Grade Spirit Sword.

Apart from that, gusts of solidified wind chi were entangled around the Quasi Royal Grade Spirit Sword as well.

In just an instant, the Heaven and Earth Energy above Duan Ling Tian swirled, and a great transformation could be seen on the Heaven and Earth Phenomenon.

Apart from the 400 silhouettes of ancient horned dragons, there were another 600 silhouettes of ancient horned dragons that materialized out of thin air. Both of them added up together were 1000 silhouettes of ancient horned dragons...

The four Concepts added up together were equal to the strength of 600 ancient horned dragons.

Among the Concepts, the strength of 300 ancient horned dragons actually came from the Earth, Thunder and Sword Concepts that possessed the strength of 100 ancient horned dragons each. The other 300 ancient horned dragons' strength came from the Wind Concept alone.

When Duan Ling Tian initially entered the Profound Assimilation Formation, out of the four Concepts that he comprehended, only the Wind Concept was in the Void Interpretation Stage. The other three were only at the Void Initiation Stage.

Due to this reason, Duan Ling Tian's Wind concept had the greatest improvement in the Profound Assimilation Formation. It was raised up to the Second Level Advance Stage in just one go!

Second Level Advance Wind Concept was equivalent to the strength of 300 ancient horned dragons!

Duan Ling Tian stood still holding his sword when faced with Zi Shang's spear attack that contained the strength of 878 ancient horned dragons. A scornful smile could be seen on the corner of his mouth.

1000 silhouettes of ancient horned dragons were ready to launch above his head.

"ATTACK!" The spear that contained Zi Shang's full force was launched right away. The Wind and Fire Energy that was on the spear rose up tremendously and transformed into a swift Wind-

Fire Spear Ray before charging at Duan Ling Tian in full fury.

Although Zi Shang's wind and fire spear ray contained tremendous power, there was still no sound of wind-whistling or explosion due to the Flight Prohibiting Formation that had sucked out the resistance in the air.

Everything seemed to be especially serene, so serene that it was kind of strange.

"Hurmph! You'll definitely die this time!" After the Spear Ray shot out from his grade two spirit spear, a sneer appeared on the corner of Zi Shang's mouth.

However, the sneer on the corner of Zi Shang's mouth very quickly froze again.

"IMPOSSIBLE!" Zi Shang had lifted his head up. He had originally wanted to witness the scene where Duan Ling Tian was pierced by the Spear Ray. However, to his surprise, he witnessed a scene that tore his heart apart instead.

'I must be dreaming!' Zi Shang bellowed in his heart.

Zi Shang's eyes narrowed instantly as he stared at the 1000 silhouettes of ancient horned dragons. His face was filled with horror while his eyes were filled with disbelief.

"How's this possible?! How can this Duan Ling Tian possess such a mighty strength?!" Zi Shang refused to believe this to be true.

— At this moment, Duan Ling Tian finally made his move.

In the face of the swift and soundless Spear Ray that was sent out by Zi Shang, a mocking smile crept up on the corner of Duan Ling Tian's mouth. The Quasi Royal Grade Spirit Sword in his hand shook for a moment before it welcomed that menacing Spear Ray.

Sword Drawing Art!

Duan Ling Tian was as swift as a lightning. The spirit sword in his hand thrust forward at the Spear Ray's side.

The strength of 1000 ancient horned dragons swept out and wiped out the Spear Ray that contained the strength of 878 ancient horned dragons without any resistance like crushing dry weeds.

BANG!

An enormous sound blasted. It was the sound of the Spear Ray exploding.

At the same time, with the help of the recoil energy formed from the Quasi Royal Grade Spirit Sword smashing the Spear Ray, Duan Ling Tian abruptly flew out to a distance.

It was to the position where Zi Shang was currently at.

Zi Shang's body was still falling downward. However, the speed that he was falling was not worth mentioning at all before Duan Ling Tian's current swift speed.

"Zi Shang!" When Duan Ling Tian charged towards Zi Shang, his eyes were filled with extreme coldness, and his killing intent was apparent.

Zi Shang had given him a lot of trouble in the past.

Last time, he was almost killed by six Skywolf Fort elders because of Zi Shang. At that time, Ta Mu blocked the attack for him and sacrificed his own life.

A debt of blood should be paid with blood!

All of a sudden, the Quasi Royal Grade Spirit Sword on Duan Ling Tian's hand shone icily.

Chapter 942: The Devilseal Tablet Fragment

When Zi Shang saw how Duan Ling Tian took advantage of his Spear Ray as a catapult to send himself flying and charging toward him with a sword, he was immediately horrified.

At this moment, the 1000 silhouettes of ancient horned dragons above Duan Ling Tian that were also charging at Zi Shang entered his sight. It was similar to fierce floods and savage beasts.

1000 silhouettes of ancient horned dragons baring their claws and fangs continued to expand in Zi Shang's field of vision. It created a huge impact on his vision and made him shudder in terror.

That was the strength of 1000 ancient horned dragons after all.

If they landed on him, he would definitely die!

Due to the Flight Prohibiting Formation, Zi Shang had no way to flee at all. All he could do was to seek help from the soul remnant hidden inside his body. His voice hurriedly echoed in his mind.

"Elder Ghost!"

"Oh?" At the same time, Duan Ling Tian who was charging at Zi Shang while waving his sword could clearly see the tiny black dot appearing out of nowhere on the spot between Zi Shang's eyebrows. The tiny black dot was rapidly growing in size.

"Geezer, you're still trying to fight back huh?" Upon seeing this, Duan Ling Tian knew without a doubt that the soul remnant that might be a Martial Emperor in Zi Shang's body had temporarily taken over his body.

A sneer instantly crept up on the corner of Duan Ling Tian's mouth. He lifted a hand up, and a small broken stone materialized in his palm.

All of a sudden, the broken stone shuddered and tried to pounce

forward as though it had found its prey.

"SHIT!" At the same time, a gruesome, hoary and ancient voice resonated in the depth of Zi Shang's mind. A hint of anxiety was apparent in the voice, there was terror toward that broken stone that came from the bottom of the heart.

All the same, before the tiny black dot had the time to turn into a black flame mark on the spot between Zi Shang's eyebrows, it quickly disappeared again.

Zi Shang regained control of his own body, but he was not happy about it at all.

"Hurmph!" Upon seeing this, Duan Ling Tian snorted coldly as he held the Devilseal Tablet in his hand casually. With his one hand holding the Devilseal Tablet while the other holding a sword, he continued to charge toward Zi Shang.

Duan Ling Tian was as swift as a lightning. In just a blink of an eye, he had already arrived within Zi Shang's proximity. In just a short moment, he would arrive at the position that was optimal for him to strike his sword out and kill Zi Shang.

"Elder Ghost!" When Zi Shang saw this, his face became stricken with panic. Once again, he pleaded for help from the soul remnant hiding inside his body, "What should I do now? If Duan Ling Tian really has his way, I'll definitely die without a doubt! It's very likely you'll also be sealed by that Devilseal Tablet in the end!"

Zi Shang was panicking, and he was completely horrified!

Initially, he thought that it would be easy for him to kill Duan Ling Tian with the current strength that he possessed. However, it did not cross his mind that the progress Duan Ling Tian made in these few months was terrifyingly more than the progress he made. Duan Ling Tian's entire strength was actually equivalent to the strength of 1000 ancient horned dragons!

— It was 100 ancient horned dragons more than his own. Duan

Ling Tian had completely suppressed him.

"We only have one method now and that's to throw away the Devilseal Tablet fragment that you have in hand. That way, not only can you seize this chance to flee, the Devilseal Tablet fragment you have in hand will also resonate with the Devilseal Tablet in his hand. At that time, he won't have time to chase after you anymore," Elder Ghost's voice reverberated in Zi Shang's mind as he told him the method of how to survive in front of Duan Ling Tian.

"Elder Ghost, it's indeed true that I can seize the chance to flee if I throw the Devilseal Tablet fragment. However, even if I really manage to flee, death is still awaiting me since I'm still falling." Zi Shang inhaled deeply before he continued hastily, "Falling from such a high place, if I don't have the help from the Devilseal Tablet, I'm afraid I won't be able to withstand the force of the fall even if I use all my strength! At that time, I'll just be plunging to my death!"

"Don't worry! Even if you continue to fall downward, nothing will happen to you. I can promise you this," Ghost Flame spoke again, confidence was apparent in his voice.

The moment he heard Ghost Flame's words, Zi Shang's eyes lit up immediately. After all, he had known Ghost Flame for more than just a day or two. He believed that Ghost Flame would not lie to him.

At any rate, this matter concerned Ghost Flame's life-and-death as well. If Zi Shang died, his soul would be annihilated. At that time, the remnant of Ghost Flame's soul would be trapped in his body.

Once Ghost Flame's soul remnant was exposed to the air, it would be destroyed completely in a flash.

"Elder Ghost, I believe in you." Zi Shang took a deep breath and lifted his hand. A stone that was as big as three adults' fists

appeared in his palm. The stone was decorated with ancient runes that were difficult to decipher.

"Oh?" Almost immediately after Zi Shang took out the stone, Duan Ling Tian, who had already taken out his sword and was about to kill Zi Shang, immediately had a change in his expression.

At this time, he clearly noticed that the Devilseal Tablet in his hand suddenly became agitated as though it had sensed something and was trying to break away from his grip.

The Devilseal Tablet continued to tremble violently and caused Duan Ling Tian's body to shudder. It made the hand that was holding the sword to loosen its grip.

Bam!

At this moment, a loud sound reverberated in Duan Ling Tian's ear. When he shifted his gaze in the direction of the sound, he noticed Zi Shang's legs were kicking at a stone hovering in the air.

As Zi Shang's feet landed on that narrow stone piece like an arrow that left the bow, he catapulted downward and crashed straight down rapidly.

In an instant, Zi Shang disappeared into the endless abyss and completely vanished right before Duan Ling Tian's eyes.

"Is he looking for death?!" As Duan Ling Tian watched Zi Shang catapulting downward at such a high speed, shivers immediately ran down Duan Ling Tian's spine. By doing this, Zi Shang would definitely fall even more quickly. Once he had reached the ground, would he not be smashed into a bloody pulp instead?

However, Duan Ling Tian had no time to spare to be concern about Zi Shang anymore.

To his surprise, he noticed that at this moment, like the stone that Zi Shang took out to help himself, the Devilseal Tablet in his hand was currently hovering in the air. Moreover, it even hoisted him up and prevented him from continuing to fall. "This Devilseal Tablet is really appalling. Even the Flight Prohibiting Formation that the Martial Emperor Stage Inscription Master laid out could do nothing to it." Duan Ling Tian's hand that was grasping the Devilseal Tablet tightened slightly. With its assistance, he leaped and landed on the Devilseal before standing on top of it.

At this moment, Duan Ling Tian became even more curious about the origin of the Devilseal Tablet.

All of a sudden, Duan Ling Tian's feet shuddered without warning. It turned out that the Devilseal Tablet had abruptly flown all the way to the stone that Zi Shang left behind like a hunter who had found his prey.

"What's going on?" Duan Ling Tian's attention shifted toward the stone that was as big as three adults' fists in an instant. He noticed that the stone had also transformed into a stream of light and was making its ways toward the Devilseal Tablet below his feet.

Duan Ling Tian's expression immediately became tensed. He tried with all his might to balance himself with his feet. He was worried that once the Devilseal Tablet and the stone clashed, he would be sent flying. If that happened, he would continue to fall downward.

— At that time, the fate that awaited him would be a pile of bloody mess.

Very soon, Duan Ling Tian noticed that his worry was completely unfounded.

When the Devilseal Tablet and the stone were in close proximity, they paused simultaneously as though they had come to some kind of tacit understanding and exuded a sense of harmony.

"Huh?" At this moment, Duan Ling Tian, who finally saw the stone clearly, narrowed his eyes instantly as though he had seen something very shocking.

Dear Lord!

What did he see?!

On this stone that was as big as three adults' fists, ancient runes were actually carved on them just like the one on the Devilseal Tablet. Even the writing was identical.

Before Duan Ling Tian could figure out what was happening, he also saw the Devilseal Tablet underneath his feet was slowly getting closer to the stone. The moment they were joined together, not even the slightest gap could be seen.

The Devilseal Tablet that originally had a huge rift was now joined perfectly with the stone, leaving only one more crack in the corner. Duan Ling Tian was immediately stunned and bewildered. "T-This is..."

"The stone that Zi Shang took out is actually part of the Devilseal Tablet?" As he stared at the Devilseal Tablet below his feet, Duan Ling Tian had an astounded expression on his face.

He could clearly see that after the Devilseal Tablet was joined with the stone, the runes on the two of them fitted perfectly together. There was no trace of disproportion at all.

Although Duan Ling Tian did not recognize these words, when the stones were affixed together, the runes on the stones were neatly aligned. Moreover, he was instantly enlightened.

The Devilseal Tablet and the stone were originally one.

"So, this must mean that... right now, as long as I find the other fragment of the Devilseal Tablet's corner, it'll return to its original shape and become a complete Devilseal Tablet?" Duan Ling Tian stared at the Devilseal Tablet beneath his feet that was now complete apart from the missing corner. All of a sudden, his eyes brightened.

The moment he recalled the horrifying power that the broken Devilseal Tablet gave him after it had had devilized him, he was certain that the power would be greater once the Devilseal Tablet was completely restored.

"Big Brother Duan!" When Duan Ling Tian was still deep in his thought, he suddenly heard a familiar voice echoing in the air. When he looked up, he finally noticed that Feng Tian Wu was falling along with him too.

However, the position that Feng Tian Wu was falling toward was not at the space where he was hovering while standing on the Devilseal Tablet. He instantly panicked a little.

Sick with anxiety, Duan Ling Tian unconsciously motioned with his mind. He wanted to move the Devilseal Tablet in the direction where Feng Tian Wu was falling so that he could catch her.

Originally, Duan Ling Tian had not fully grasped the operation method of the Devilseal Tablet, but when the tablet followed his wish and flew toward the place where Feng Tian Wu was falling, he finally let out a sigh of relief.

Whoosh!

Duan Ling Tian retracted the Quasi Royal Grade Spirit Sword in his hand. With an action that was as swift as the wind, he extended both of his hands and let out gusts of gentle Origin Energy to slow down Feng Tian Wu's falling speed.

When the speed of her fall was reduced, he extended his hands and grasped her slim wrists before guiding her to step on the Devilseal Tablet.

"Big Brother Duan, why does your stone seems kind of different from before?"

Feng Tian Wu looked at the Devilseal Tablet beneath her feet in shock. She was not unfamiliar with this broken stone monument at all. During the Martial Competition of the Ten Dynasties a few months back, Duan Ling Tian had even loaned it to her.

It was precisely because of this reason that she could feel that the

current Devilseal Tablet was different from the one before. The small part that was broken had been half filled currently. There was only one corner that was missing its part.

Chapter 943: The Man and Woman Who Emerged from the Bottomless Abyss

"Yes." Duan Ling Tian nodded.

In just an instant, his vision became slightly blurry as he stared at the impeccable beauty before him.

He did not need to give it much thought, and he could easily guess the reason why Tian Wu fell as well — it must be because she had jumped after him earlier.

At this moment, Duan Ling Tian's heartstring was gently tugged on. He only managed to calm himself down again after a long while.

"My position in her heart... is more than her own life?" Duan Ling Tian murmured to himself.

At the same time, the gaze as he looked at Feng Tian Wu now had an additional touch of gentleness. It was a gentleness that had not shown up for a long time. It was the gentleness that only appeared for his two previous fiancés before.

"B-Big Brother Duan, w-what are you looking at?" At first, Feng Tian Wu wanted to ask Duan Ling Tian about the reason for the Devilseal Tablet's transformation. However, the moment she lifted up her head, she saw Duan Ling Tian was staring at her. His gaze was so gentle that it was as though it could melt her heart completely.

At this moment, she was overcome with the urge to cry even though she did not know why.

"N-Nothing." Duan Ling Tian took a deep breath and shifted his eyes away before choking out a forced laugh. "Let's go! Let us go up!"

The moment the words left Duan Ling Tian's mouth, he soared

up into the sky as he stood on the Devilseal Tablet while holding Feng Tian Wu.

The Flight Prohibiting Formation could not stop the Devilseal Tablet from flying.

Underneath the great entrance of the Martial Emperor's secret treasure where the towering platform was situated, young disciples from the six major forces continued to land and stand steadily on top of it one after another.

"What the hell is this place? We can't even fly in here!" Many people grunted loudly.

"There must be some restriction in here... I suspect that there's a special Inscription Formation shrouding the entire area that prohibits us from flying in here."

"I've read a record on a similar Inscription Formation in an ancient scripture before. This kind of Inscription Formation seems to be known as the Flight Prohibiting Formation!"

"Flight Prohibiting Formation?!"

"What a tyrannical Inscription Formation! It completely robs us of our flying ability!"

• • •

The young disciples from each sect were busy discussing the matter with each other. Many of them started to look around at the surroundings.

"Other than the stone ladder over here, the other three sides are bottomless abyss that's completely dark. Since we can't fly in here, we'll definitely die if we fall from here!"

"Exactly! Earlier, there were already three people who fell from here. I'm afraid it's very likely that they've plunged to their deaths!"

"WHAT? Somebody fell down from here?"

"That's right!"

"Who are they?"

"You definitely know the two of them — it's that Duan Ling Tian from Five Element Sect and that stunning female disciple from the Blade Sect. The other one is a young disciple from the Skywolf Fort. That guy's fully clad in white and has an extraordinary aura around him."

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Within seconds, many young disciples from each force learned about Duan Ling Tian, Feng Tian Wu, and Zi Shang's fall into the bottomless abyss.

"Duan Ling Tian fell into that?" Hu Fei was one of the last to enter. Unlike the other Five Element Sect's disciples, he had only just learned that Duan Ling Tian had fallen into the bottomless abyss from the high platform.

"Looks like luck is on my side after all. It's just such a pity that Duan Ling Tian still holds the four Ninth Level Concept Fragments." As he muttered to the end of the sentence, a look of regret could be seen on his face.

"Huh?" After hearing the news that Duan Ling Tian had fallen into the bottomless abyss, Xuan Bei from the Empyrean Temple and Zhang Yan from the Emotion Severing Sect stood at the edge of the high platform and looked down.

A bottomless abyss that stretched out as far as the eyes could see. In their eyes, it resembled a gigantic beast's mouth.

Once one had fallen into it, it would be pretty much impossible to climb up again.

With his hands clasped together, Xuan Bei murmured to himself, "Duan Ling Tian, looks like the promise between you and me is going to remain unfulfilled."

"What a pity." A light flashed across Zhang Yan's eyes while his face still remained aloof. It was as though Duan Ling Tian's death was not even worth a ripple in his heart. All he felt was only a slight pity.

"That Duan Ling Tian is dead?" After the group of Sun Moon Sect's disciples heard the news of Duan Ling Tian falling into the abyss, each of their eyes lit up immediately. Happiness filled their faces right away.

"Senior Brother Ling Tian..."

Apart from Hu Fei, many of the Five Element Sect's disciples were standing at the edge of the high platform with their gaze fixed on the bottomless abyss. Hints of despair and regret could be seen in their eyes.

"How unfortunate... That Duan Ling Tian is dead now," Nangong Yi let out a sigh.

"Not necessarily." Nangong Chen shook his head.

"Huh?" Perplexed, Nangong Yi turned to look at Nangong Chen curiously. "Why do you say that?"

"He doesn't seem to be a person with a short lifespan." Nangong Chen's answer was direct. It was simple and straightforward.

The corner of Nangong Yi's mouth twitched instantly. He was rendered speechless.

"Junior Sister Feng has fallen as well?" Many of the Blade Sect's disciples sighed.

This stunning woman with unparalleled beauty was now gone? Just like the saying 'Those whom the Gods love die young.'

"They're all dead! Yes, they're dead!" Standing by the side, a joyful look could be seen on Lian Xiong's face.

Although he did not dare to even harbor any thoughts of going against Duan Ling Tian and Feng Tian Wu, he still could not stop

the happiness that rose in his heart the moment he learned that the two of them had fallen into the bottomless abyss and were most likely dead.

"It's fate! It's fate!" Lian Xiong's smile on his face turned wider. In his opinion, God was obviously siding with him.

However, in the next moment, the smile on his face froze without any warning.

Cheers of surprise reverberated in his ears.

"It's Senior Brother Ling Tian! Senior Brother Ling Tian just came up!"

"And that female disciple from Blade Sect as well. Both of them came up together!"

"HAHAHAHA! Senior Brother Ling Tian is safe! Senior Brother is alright"

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The Five Element Sect's disciples had been looking down from the edge of the high platform, and their eyes lit up instantly as they cried out in astonishment.

At this moment, their gazes were fixed on the two figures that appeared from the bottomless abyss and were now rising up rapidly.

After Huang Daniu had learned about the existence of the Flight Prohibiting Formation, his heart had completely sunk to the bottom as he thought Duan Ling Tian, who had fallen into the bottomless abyss, would most likely end up dead.

"Duan Ling Tian!" At this moment, his eyes that were filled with despair brightened up when he saw Duan Ling Tian appearing right before his eyes. Without any delay, he excitedly greeted Duan Ling Tian.

Su Li and Zhang Shou Yong were standing at one side. Initially,

their feelings were similar to Huang Daniu's. However, now that they saw Duan Ling Tian and Feng Tian Wu rising up from the abyss, the darkness clouding their faces dissipated right away and was replaced by a heartfelt smile that originated from the bottom of their hearts.

"They're not dead! They're not dead!" As Su Li and Zhang Shou Yong exchanged glances with each other, they could see the excitement in each other's eyes.

"Duan Ling Tian's not dead?" Xuan Bei's eyes gleamed as a rare smile crept up on the corner of his mouth. "Duan Ling Tian, you really didn't let me down."

Zhang Yang's eyes were filled with shock. "H-How did he come back up? From my exploration, this area's covered by the Flight Prohibiting Formation, and there's practically no resistance in the air at all!"

Apart from knowing the area prohibited flight, Zhang Yan, who had explored the surrounding area, also knew that there was no air resistance in this area as well.

For this reason, it was basically impossible to rely on air resistance to create a backlash that could help propel one back on the high platform.

Under the watchful eyes of the others, a purple and a red figure rose up from the side of the high platform, appearing before their eyes.

It was a purple-clad young man and a red-clad young woman. The man was handsome while the woman was stunning. They looked like a golden couple when they stood together.

"Senior Brother Ling Tian is well-matched with this female disciple from Blade Sect!"

"A perfect match between a handsome man and a beautiful woman. Moreover, both of them also possess a monstrous Martial Dao innate ability. They're indeed a match made in heaven!"

"Perhaps, we Five Element Sect can consider uniting with Blade Sect through marriage."

• • •

Many of the Five Element Sect's disciples were talking to one another. When their gazes fell on the young man and woman standing on the stone monument that lacked one corner again, a suggestive hint was apparent in their eyes.

All of the voices from the Five Element Sect's disciples clearly entered Duan Ling Tian's ears. He had just brought Feng Tian Wu up with him, and it made him feel kind of embarrassed.

As for Feng Tian Wu, her delicate face that was already completely stained with a crimson blush was so red that it was as though blood could drip out from her face. It was so flushed people wished they could just plant a wet kiss on her.

"Duan Ling Tian! I knew that you're going to live a goddamn long life!" Huang Daniu grinned.

Although Huang Daniu's usage of words was not too polite, Duan Ling Tian could see his concern toward him from his slightly red eyes. Warmth flooded his heart instantly.

Su Li and Zhang Shou Yong let out a sigh of relief as well.

"How's it possible?!" When Hu Fei saw Duan Ling Tian reappearing before his eyes again, his face darkened within seconds. The heart that was soaring high in the Heaven just a moment ago plunged down to Hell in a flash.

"I-Impossible! Impossible! He can actually fly within the area of the Flight Prohibiting Formation?" Hu Fei shook his head in disbelief, he refused to believe the truth before his eyes.

At the same time, he started to look at Duan Ling Tian and the woman standing next to him up and down before shifting his gaze

toward the stone monument that lacked a corner beneath their feet.

"Could it be because of this stone monument?" A glimpse flashed across Hu Fei's eyes as he murmured to himself.

At the same time, an endless hatred overflowed from the depth of his eyes. "Who exactly is this Duan Ling Tian? Everything good is all taken by him!"

"Sigh." Seeing the emergence of Duan Ling Tian and Feng Tian Wu, Lian Xiong sighed out loud. The smile on his face disappeared without a trace.

All he felt right now was a sense of helplessness.

Very soon, somebody cried out loudly, "Isn't this place completely shrouded with Flight Prohibiting Formation? How are Duan Ling Tian and Feng Tian Wu able to fly?"

Everybody's attention immediately began to shift and finally landed on the stone monument that lacked a corner beneath Duan Ling Tian and Feng Tian Wu. Their eyes brightened up at once.

"It's that stone monument!"

"What writing is carved on that stone monument? I don't recognize any of them at all."

"This stone monument can actually fly within the Flight Prohibiting Formation! I'm sure it's definitely not something simple."

• • •

The eyes that landed on the stone monument lacking a corner beneath Duan Ling Tian and Feng Tian Wu's feet were filled with heat and longing.

Many of the eyes were even shining with greed as though they wanted to snatch the stone monument that lacked a corner for themselves.

At this moment, Duan Ling Tian had already returned to the high platform with Feng Tian Wu. Under the watchful eyes of the crowd, he retrieved the stone monument that lacked a corner. That was the Devilseal Tablet.

"Duan Ling Tian, hand over the four Ninth Level Concept Fragments and the stone monument!" Somehow, a group of people had already surrounded Duan Ling Tian and Feng Tian Wu.

Chapter 944: Forty Eight People

"Huh?" Duan Ling Tian who had just landed on the high platform with Feng Tian Wu was immediately surrounded by a group of people. Although his brows were lifted up high, his face still remained calm.

As Duan Ling Tian casually glanced at his surroundings, he immediately identified the people surrounding him were the disciples from Sun Moon Sect — seventeen of them — and Skywolf Fort — nineteen of them.

There was a total of 36 people.

For the opening of the Martial Emperor's secret treasure this time, each sect had made a promise that each of them would only bring twenty young disciples so that each sect could have a small share. Due to this reason, each of the sects only brought twenty young disciples along.

Since Duan Ling Tian had killed one of the twenty Sun Moon Sect's disciples, there were nineteen left.

Currently, other than the two black-clad young men standing afar with an easy grace, the other seventeen Sun Moon Sect's disciples had all surrounded him. Each of them was glaring at him like a ravenous tiger with a deep hatred in their eyes.

As for Skywolf Fort, the other nineteen disciples, including Ye Ling, had also surrounded him one by one apart from Zi Shang who had fallen into the bottomless abyss.

Different from the hatred that could be seen in the eyes of the seventeen Sun Moon Sect's disciples, the nineteen Skywolf Fort's disciples were eyeing him with greed as though he was some sort of a treasure.

Naturally, the treasure was not Duan Ling Tian himself but the ones in his hands.

The four Ninth Level Concept Fragments and the stone monument that could fly in the Flight Prohibiting Formation were more than enough to draw out the greed in most people.

"Hu Lin, are we really just going to stand back and watch from the side?" One of the two Sun Moon Sect's disciples standing afar asked with a frown on his face, "Don't you think it's a little unseemly if we don't go? After all, Lu Kai was our Junior Brother, and avenging him is a responsibility that we can't relinquish!"

A smirk crept up on the corner of the other person's mouth as he asked faintly, "What? You want to sacrifice your life?"

"Sacrifice? You mean... Duan Ling Tian can handle all of them?" The former gasped before he continued to murmur, "B-But, is this even possible? There are 36 current outstanding young disciples from our Sun Moon Sect and Skywolf Fort! Even if all of the Five Element Sect's people join in the fight, I don't think they'll be able to block all the attacks, right?" The former asked again.

"Zhang Ping, you're wrong." Hu Lin narrowed his eyes, a hint of dread could be seen in the depth of his eyes as he muttered, "That Duan Ling Tian is way more horrifying than you think. Do you really think he can kill Lu Kai with one blow just because his strength is slightly better than Lu Kai's? From what I could see, when this Duan Ling Tian was killing Lu Kai, apart from not using any spirit weapon, he still withheld quite an amount of his energy. Although 36 people seem a lot, it's still a vain dream if they really think they can kill Duan Ling Tian just like that!" Hu Fei's tone was filled with solemness.

The moment Zhang Ping thought about it, he murmured to himself, "Is he really that terrifying?" He shifted his attention to Duan Ling Tian who was surrounded by the 36 disciples from Sun Moon Sect and Skywolf Fort.

"Well, you can see for yourself later whether he's really that terrifying or not," Hu Lin continued nonchalantly, "I believe that when that time comes, you'll be glad that you still have a life to spare. Hurmph! This group of idiots wouldn't even listen to me! It serves them right if they die!" The 'idiots' that he was referring to were none other than the seventeen Sun Moon Sect's disciples who were carried away with hatred.

Before the seventeen Sun Moon Sect's disciples surrounded Duan Ling Tian, they had invited him but he had rejected their invitation. When he expressed his concern, he was called a 'coward' by the other seventeen Sun Moon Sect's disciples and was even told that he was unworthy of being called 'Big Senior Brother Chief' by the current young disciples of the Sun Moon Sect.

"What're you guys doing?" The moment they saw Duan Ling Tian and Feng Tian Wu were surrounded, many of the Five Element Sect's disciples' faces either darkened or were gleaming dangerously as they glared at the Sun Moon Sect's and Skywolf Fort's disciples.

Among the group of disciples from Skywolf Fort, Duan Ling Tian was familiar with Ye Ling, the strongest person among the young generation in the Darqing Dynasty. Ye Ling looked at Duan Ling Tian with an aloof expression as he growled in a deep voice, "Duan Ling Tian, as long as you hand over the four Ninth Level Concept Fragments and the stone monument from earlier, we'll let you go unharmed!"

"Ye Ling?" Duan Ling Tian narrowed his eyes. A smirk crept up on the corner of his mouth — a smirk that was full of mockery.

At this moment, there was only one thought in his mind. Be it Ye Ling or the group of disciples from Skywolf Fort and Sun Moon Sect, all of them were out of their minds.

Did they really think that they could kill him just by relying on sheer number alone?

The fact was Duan Ling Tian did not know that the Skywolf Fort's disciples who entered late were not aware of the fact that he

had killed a Ninth Level Void Interpretation Sun Moon Sect's disciple who had comprehended the Ninth Level Void Interpretation Concept in just one blow. Otherwise, they would not have agreed to the Sun Moon Sect's disciples' request and become their partners in crime to go against Duan Ling Tian.

As for the Sun Moon Sect's disciples, it was very likely that they had been overcome with hatred.

Unlike the other forces, the disciples from the Sun Moon Sect were basically taken into the sect since they were young. They had undergone a series of brainwashing education and training. For the sake of Sun Moon Sect's benefit, they would do anything regardless of their own safety.

To put it simply, most of the Sun Moon Sect's disciples were basically a group of maniacs.

Naturally, there were exceptions as well.

A fine example would be Hu Lin, the strongest person among the young generation in Sun Moon Sect. Other than being intelligent since young, he was not successfully brainwashed by the Sun Moon Sect.

"A group of maniacs!" Nangong Yi stood by the side and shook his head with a nonchalant expression on his face. He was not at all worried about Duan Ling Tian's safety.

"A group of people that are seeking death!" Huang Daniu, Su Li, and Zhang Shou Yong stood on the other side. There was not even a trace of anxiety, they appeared to be completely unbothered by it.

Naturally, they were only so calm because they had faith in Duan Ling Tian's strength.

Tian Zhen's eyes were as wide as saucers as he cast a glance at Tan Huan. He voiced out his doubts, "The Skywolf Fort disciples are still okay. I mean, they don't really know Duan Ling Tian's strength... However, the Sun Moon Sect's disciples still dare to fight Duan Ling Tian even though they already knew his full strength? Are they really out of their minds?"

"Look at the expressions on the seventeen Sun Moon Sect's disciples, it's totally different from the nineteen Skywolf Fort's disciples. Hatred is more apparent in the eyes of the Sun Moon Sect's disciples while greed is more obvious in the eyes of the Skywolf Fort's disciple." As Tan Huan carefully scrutinized them, she easily noticed that something was amiss. "The former is most likely trying to avenge Lu Kai, the Sun Moon Sect's disciple that Duan Ling Tian killed earlier. Meanwhile, the latter has no doubt been convinced by the Sun Moon Sect's disciples and is trying to snatch the treasures from Duan Ling Tian."

"Looks like the Skywolf Fort's disciples are going to turn into cannon fodders for the Sun Moon Sect's disciples." After a moment of observation, Tian Zhen nodded. He fully agreed with Tan Huan's statement.

At this moment, an Emotion Severing Sect's disciple looked at Zhang Yan and asked with a burning gaze in his eyes, "Senior Brother Yan, should we join in?"

The Emotion Severing Sect had entered the great door together with Skywolf Fort so they also did not witness the scene where Duan Ling Tian killed Lu Kai, the Sun Moon Sect's disciple, with just one blow. Due to that reason, they were not clear about Duan Ling Tian's true strength.

All the same, the other eighteen Emotion Severing Sect's disciples, other than Qi Feng and Qin Hao whom Duan Ling Tian was familiar with, were all staring at Duan Ling Tian with obvious greed in their eyes.

Qi Feng and Qin Hao were ranked third and fourth respectively in the Martial Competition of the Ten Dynasties that Skywolf Fort organized several months ago. After that, they had followed Pei An, the Sect Leader of the Emotion Severing Sect, to the Emotion Severing Sect.

During the opening of the Martial Emperor's secret treasure this time, the two of them had made great improvements thanks to Emotion Severing Sect's vigorous training, and they had been entrusted with heavy responsibilities to search and plunder for the Profundity Fragments hidden in the Martial Emperor's secret treasure for the Emotion Severing Sect.

Zhang Yan looked aloof as he told them nonchalantly, "All of you can go ahead if you want to die."

"Hurmph!" At this moment, a person walked out from the Emotion Severing Sect. It was a young man who was close to forty and fully cloaked in grey.

He cast a glance at Zhang Yan coldly as he mocked him, "Zhang Yan, you're the direct disciple of the sect leader and yet you're becoming more and more cowardly now!"

"If the sect's great ancestors know that the Emotion Severing Sect's disciple who has successfully cultivated the Supreme Emotion Forsaking Technique is actually such a coward, I'm sure they would be so infuriated that they would spit out three liters of blood even if they're already dead!" When he ended his sentence, the mocking look on the grey-clad young man's face became even more apparent. A hint of jealousy and hatred could be seen in the depth of his eyes.

Anyone with eyes could see that he did not get along well with Zhang Yan.

"Well, if you're not afraid of death, please feel free to go ahead." Zhang Yan did not even bother to look at him in the eyes as he continued apathetically, "However, I have to remind you. If you die, it'll all be on you! The sect will not avenge you."

"Of course! I'm not as cowardly as you!" After being looked down

by Zhang Yan, the grey-clad young man's face darkened instantly as he snorted with disdain.

Without wasting any time, he proceeded to call the other Emotion Severing Sect's disciples, "Attention please, everyone from the Emotion Severing Sect! Those who want to join forces with the Sun Moon Sect's and Skywolf Fort's disciples so that we can get a share of the goodies, come with me now!"

The moment the words left his mouth, the gray-clad young man had already flown out and joined the ranks of the Sun Moon Sect's and Skywolf Fort's disciples before casting a pair of greedy eyes at Duan Ling Tian.

"Senior Brother Wei, wait for me!" Without delay, one Emotion Severing Sect's disciple followed suit and flew out as well.

"Senior Brother Wei is a Ninth Level Void Interpretation powerhouse who has comprehended the First Level Void Transformation Concept after all! How hard could it be for him to kill that Duan Ling Tian?" In just an instant, the other Emotion Severing Sect's disciples followed suit one after another.

In just a blink of an eye, the Emotion Severing Sect's disciples who were left behind were only Zhang Yan, Qi Feng, Qin Hao, and five other disciples.

Twelve Emotion Severing Sect's disciples, including that grayclad young man, had joined in the encirclement and were staring greedily at Duan Ling Tian.

"What a party!" When Duan Ling Tian saw the group of people surrounding him grew from 36 people to 48, not only did he not feel an ounce of fear, a ridiculing smile appeared on his face instead.

"Tian Wu, take leave first." Duan Ling Tian turned toward Feng Tian Wu and smiled.

When Feng Tian Wu saw the confidence in Duan Ling Tian's

eyes, she immediately dismissed the idea of helping him before she nodded her head sensibly.

She walked away from the encirclement without any hesitation while the group of Skywolf Fort's disciples who formed the encirclement made way for her.

At any rate, their target was Duan Ling Tian, not Feng Tian Wu.

Feng Tian Wu had Blade Sect as her patron, they did not need to invite more troubles for themselves.

Chapter 945: God of Slaughter, Duan Ling Tian

Although Duan Ling Tian was heavily surrounded by forty-eight disciples from three major factions, there was still a grin on his face, unfazed by the situation.

"Humph! Duan Ling Tian, you can still smile even when death is upon you."

Ye Ling sneered, his eyes flickering with luster of ruthlessness.

"You're certain that... The person who'll die is definitely me?"

After listening to Ye Ling, the smile on Duan Ling Tian's face grew wider. He replied with an indifferent tone, completely ignoring the crisis at hand.

In a distance, a group of Five Element Sect disciples looked toward the group of disciples from the Sun Moon Sect, Skywolf Fort and Emotion Severing Sect who surrounded Duan Ling Tian with a sardonic grin on their faces, mocking the gang's overconfidence.

"They're courting death... Do they truly believe they can kill Duan Tian Ling by merely outnumbering him?"

The scornful faces on many of the disciples from the Empyrean Temple and Blade Sect clearly showed their disdain toward the Sun Moon Sect, Skywolf Fort and Emotion Severing Sect disciples who surrounded Duan Ling Tian.

They had seen what Duan Ling Tian could do with their own eyes.

Duan Ling Tian had managed to instantly kill a Void Interpretation stage, ninth level martial artist who was using a grade two spirit weapon with an explosive punch.

To this moment, they still shuddered whenever they recalled that

scene.

Duan Ling Tian's strength was extremely frightful.

So far, no one knew the true extent of Duan Ling Tian's strength.

Standing aside, the calm gaze of Xuan Bei fell on Duan Ling Tian as though he attempted to dissect Duan Ling Tian's actions.

"Humph! Mystifying move!"

Following what Duan Ling Tian had said, Ye Ling sneered and immediately shouted. "Attack!"

On Ye Ling's order, every one of the forty-eight disciples from the three major factions including herself rushed forth and leaped toward the heavily surrounded Duan Ling Tian.

They used spirit weapon right from the start, fully exerting their origin energy and realm. They charged towards Duan Ling Tian with all they had, creating a great momentum.

The attacks seemed like they were raining as the disciples aimed for Duan Ling Tian.

The air resistance in this region was completely divested by the Flight Prohibiting Formation, so the attacks of the forty-eight disciples neither caused the wind to whistle nor did they cause a shockwave even though their attacks were heavy and numerous.

Several thousand ancient horned dragon silhouettes circling in the void above the forty-eight disciples also surged towards the encirclement.

They charged towards the direction of Duan Ling Tian with their fangs sharp and claws bared.

"Senior Brother Ling Tian!"

Although they have confidence in Duan Ling Tian, many of the Five Element Sect disciples were still worried and broke out in cold sweat when they saw his stature being drowned by the forty-eight disciples from the three major factions.

Above the void, the scene of several thousand ancient horned dragon silhouettes squeezing together gave all who saw it an impactful sight, it was like a feast for the eyes.

"Big Brother Duan." Feng Tian Wu stood aside as a worried look appeared on her pretty face.

"Duan Ling Tian, you can do this." Huang Daniu waved his fist and solemnly said.

Soon, the look on the faces of the surrounding people was frozen, their pupils contracted with time itself.

Oh God! What did they see?!

They saw the forty-eight youthful strong men lunging at Duan Ling Tian as a group and together they managed to drown the silhouette of Duan Ling Tian out. However, their bodies were stunned in mid-air at the same time.

Following that, the onlookers felt a flash before their eyes, seemingly the afterimage of a sword slashing across.

Then, all who were present saw the bodies of the forty-eight youths who charged at Duan Ling Tian suddenly get ripped into halves after a split second in mid-air.

Some of them were decapitated, some were ripped at the waist, some had both their legs chopped off, while others had half their head and their feet chopped.

Blood was all over the place, splattered on high ground before gathering to form a river.

A river filled with blood.

Boom! Boom! Boom! Boom!

• • •

Hundreds of pieces of incomplete corpses, fell onto the high ground like dumplings falling into soup, splashing from the river of blood as if it was blooming a blood rose after the other.

```
"Agh!"
"Agh!!"
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Meanwhile, agonizing shrieks escaped from the mouths of those youthful strong men who had had their feet and legs chopped off.

After that, they fell onto the ground one by one, rolling around in neverending agony.

Shortly after, they were all covered in blood.

As for the others, they had become incomplete corpses, severed into several parts. As their life withered, they paid the price of their recklessness with their lives.

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"Ou!"
"Ew!!"
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The bloody scene made many of the young disciples from the onlooking factions pale and feel sick.

The female disciples were especially horrified. In addition to the constant vomiting, they closed their eyes in a hurry, not daring to look at such a bloody scene.

Although most of them had killed in the past before, they had never experienced such a scene.

For them, the scene they have just witnessed was a living hell.

"Overestimated yourselves."

At the same time, a cold voice was heard spreading out.

After killing and crippling forty-eight youthful strong men from the three factions, Duan Ling Tian spoke with a faint, cold, and indifferent voice as he rose into the air on the Devilseal Tablet.

Then, Duan Ling Tian's gaze fell upon the thirteen surviving men

who were now crippled, his eyes filled with ruthlessness and an icy coldness.

"Spare me! Spare my life!!"

"Duan Ling Tian, I was a blind as a bat, a great man like as you rarely harbor grievances for past wrongs, please forgive me!"

"Senior brother Yan, save me! Please! I beg you to save me!!"

...

Amongst the thirteen surviving men, apart from the Sun Moon Sect disciples who embrace death, the disciples of Skywolf Fort and Emotion Severing constantly begged for mercy. Some of the Emotion Severing Sect disciples even ask for Zhang Yan's help.

There was a total of eight onlooking Emotion Severing Sect disciples by the side including Zhang Yan, Qi Feng, and Qin Kong.

"Senior brother Yan..."

One of the Emotion Severing Sect disciples found it unbearable and look at Zhang Yan, seemingly intending to convince Zhang Yan to save their brothers from their sect.

"Don't say it! No matter who they are, everyone needs to pay the price for their choices... Besides, even if I were to intervene, I don't think I'm able to stop Duan Ling Tian from killing them."

Zhang Yan spoked with an indifferent voice, interrupting the Emotion Severing Sect's disciple. Meanwhile, he looked at Duan Ling Tian with apprehensive eyes.

He would never have guessed that Duan Ling Tian's strength would become so terrifying within the span of a few months.

He had killed thirty-five people, and another thirteen were crippled with just a sword without even utilizing the Heaven and Earth Energy to form Heaven and Earth Phenomenon.

The speed of that sword was so fast that it was hard to follow even for him.

"I thought that I'd have surpassed Duan Ling Tian after successfully cultivating the Supreme Emotion Forsaking Technique and mastering the initial stage of The Union of Ice and Flame'... But now it seems, Duan Ling Tian's strength is superior to mine!"

A flash went through Zhang Yan's eyes, deep within it the longingness for a battle.

Nevertheless, he did not intervene even though he longed for a battle, for he knew, now was not the right time to cross-swords with Duan Ling Tian.

As for those disabled Emotion Severing Sect disciples, he simply ignored them.

From his perspective, everyone needed to pay a price for their choices.

"If there's a next life, please remember... Assess your capabilities before plotting against others!"

As Duan Ling Tian stood on the Devilseal Tablet, his purple clothes swayed without the wind, his indifferent gaze sweeping across the thirteen men lying on the floor as he slowly lifted his sword.

"Spare my life!"

"Spare my life!!"

• • •

The surviving disciples of Skywolf Fort and Emotion Severing sect sensed the upcoming crisis kneeled on the floor kowtowing one after the other as they begged for mercy, the fear within their hearts clearly evident in their voices.

"Once chosen, some matters are hard to turn back from! Once done, some matters will require you to pay a price for it!"

Duan Ling Tian's cold voice proclaimed word by word.

As he stopped talking, the sword in his hand was pulled backward, turning into a blooming flower of swords, beautiful and magnificent.

The onlookers cloud clearly see a flirtatious Blood Flower blooming from the throat of the thirteen disciples from Sun Moon Sect, Skywolf Fort, and Emotion Severing Sect all at once.

Boom! Boom! Boom! Boom! Boom!

• • •

Thirteen bodies fell, one by one, devoid of breath and pulse.

Immediately, the scene became calm and dead silent.

The focus of the bystanders fell on the purple silhouette standing in the space above the river of blood and the hill of corpses. Their sight was filled with horror and dread, originating from the bottom of their hearts.

Drip! Drip!

• • •

The purple clothed youth stood sword in hand as fresh blood dripped off the tip of his blade. Although the sound of the blood dripping was soft, it was clearly transmitted into everyone's ears.

Many of them felt horrified as their scalp tingled from hearing the sound.

"God of Slaughter!"

At that moment, everyone present had this thought in their mind as they watched the purple clothed youth standing on the tablet.

The way they looked at it, Duan Ling Tian was none other than a God of Slaughter!

Forty-eight disciples from three major factions were slaughtered in less than the time needed for ten breaths, none of them surviving. They felt that even if they had the abilities of Duan Ling Tian, they may not be able to achieve this.

They were not afraid of killing people but to kill so many in two strikes of the sword, breaking the corpses into hundreds of pieces... They were aware that it would be hard for them to accomplish this feat.

Once angered, the river of blood flows!

Nothing more than that.

Many of the onlookers were severely frightened and were unable to calm down for a long time.

"It's too scary! This Duan Ling Tian is too scary!!"

The face of Lian Xiong, the Blade Sect disciple who had assaulted Duan Ling Tian in the past outside became pale, his eyes filled with fear. His sword reached Duan Lin Tian's head in between the brows.

Apart from being terrified, the only other feeling he now felt was relief.

Fortunately, Feng Tian Wu severed his arm in a timely manner or he would undoubtedly be dead.

"Hmm?"

In a corner, Hu Fei paled when he saw Duan Ling Tian's massacre. He was initially startled but his face changed.

He noticed Duan Ling Tian locking his gaze on him after killing the forty-eight strong youths from the three major factions. Duan Ling Tian's gaze was filled with a killing intent.

"No! No!!"

Hu Fei seemed to be aware of what would follow He was so terrified that his pupils shrank and his body trembled.

Chapter 946: Hu Fei's Death

Duan Ling Tian flashed toward Hu Fei with the Devilseal tablet under his feet. He stared at Hu Fei as he hovered in the space above him.

"Hu Fei!"

Duan Ling Tian's eyes were overflowing with an intention to kill Hu Fei.

Hu Fei's face changed when he saw Duan Ling Tian arrived before him in just a blink of an eye. He shouted anxiously at once, "Duan Ling Tian...You...You shouldn't kill me!You shouldn't kill me!!" It was as if he was afraid Duan Ling Tian would strike him down before he finished his sentence.

"Shouldn't kill you?"

After Duan Ling Tian heard what Hu Fei said, he sneered. "What's your reason?"

Duan Ling Tian had intended to kill Hu Fei for quite some time now. The danger and threat Zi Shang brought to him previously had made him realized the importance of nipping a problem in the bud.

If he had killed Zi Shang during the battle of the 'Two-Year Pact' at the summit of Dubhe Peak on Seven Star Sword Sect, all the subsequent event caused by Zi Shang would not have happened.

Hu Fei made him feel extremely threatened. He knew that as long as Hu Fei was alive, he would definitely become another Zi Shang in the future.

Duan Ling Tian realized that he needed to kill Hu Fei when he noticed Hu Fei's vicious gaze toward him when they were outside. If left unattended, Hu Fei would become a big problem to him in the future.

Duan Ling Tian was still standing on the Devilseal Tablet. He hovered in mid-air looking at Hu Fei while he held Hu Fei's life is his hands.

He could take Hu Fei's life in just an instant with a flick of his sword.

"Reasons?" Duan Ling Tuan questioned.

Hu Fei stared blankly for a moment before he scrambled to reply, "I'm the personal disciple of the Peak Master of Fire Peak. My teacher won't let you get away with it if you kill me... He definitely won't let you get away with it!"

"This is the only reason you can come up with?"

Duan Ling Tian had expected Hu Fei to come out with something a little more original. He did not expect Hu Fei to bring up his teacher's name, Cha Bai the Peak Master of Fire Peak, to claim protection. Duan Ling Tian was undoubtedly very disappointed.

When he planned to murder Hu Fei, how could he not know that Cha Bai would be offended?

Naturally, he had already thought of it!

Nevertheless, he was unafraid of offending Cha Bai!

Hu Fei's faced distorted after he noticed Duan Ling Tian was unmoved by his reason. Hu Fei kneeled down on the ground and immediately began kowtowing before Duan Ling Tian with a 'poof' sound.

"Duan Ling Tian, show me mercy! Please don't kill me!"

Hu Fei was kowtowing and begging for mercy at the same time. "In the past, I was as blind as a bat, and I know I've offended you... As long as you spare my life today, I guarantee I'll never oppose you again in the future!"

"Show me mercy! Please don't kill me!"

After a short while of kowtowing non-stop, Hu Fei's forehead

began to turn red from his blood. His facial expression exposed the fear within him.

It should be noted that Hu Fei's action took Duan Ling Tian by surprise.

Duan Ling Tian could not have guessed that in this moment of life and death, Hu Fei would forsake his dignity and beg for mercy from his former mortal enemy without any sort of integrity.

"Maybe I've overestimated him... How could a person who betrayed his teacher, who had saved his life and cultivated him, have any sort of integrity?"

Duan Ling Tian understood Hu Fei's current action after he recalled what he had done in the past.

'A leopard could not change its spots overnight' was a description that befitted Hu Fei.

"This Hu Fei has brought disgrace to Fire Peak and has brought disgrace to our Five Element Sect as well!" Huang Daniu said with a face filled with disgust.

Apart from a Fire Peak's disciple who had a complicated expression on his face, the other disciples from the Five Element Sect looked at Hu Fei with disdain. " Ze Ze...Is this the level of dignity our Five Element Sect's Peak Master of Fire Peak's direct disciple has?"

"I agree with senior brother Daniu...He truly is a disgrace to Fire Peak, a disgrace to our Five Element Sect!"

"I think if Peak Master Cha Bai saw this, he'd be so enraged and slapped him to death."

"Disgrace! Such a disgrace!"

The disciples from Five Element Sect shifted their attention toward Hu Fei, contempt was written all over their faces as they spoke about him.

Currently, even the way the disciples from the other factions looked at Hu Fei was also filled with contempt.

"Who could've guessed that there's such a cowardly disciple in the Five Element Sect."

"If I'm not mistaken, he's the direct disciple of the Peak Master of Fire Peak from the Five Element Sect... How poor is the judgment of the Peak Master of Fire Peak to accept such a disgraceful disciple?"

"On one end, Duan Ling Tian, as a disciple of Five Element Sect has a profound martial art prowess along with his unyielding approach, is a person to be revered. On the other end, Hu Fei, also a Five Element Sect's disciple, is a real coward and a despicable person."

• • •

The disciples from the other major forces debated among themselves as they expressed their disgust toward Hu Fei. Some of them even compared him to Duan Ling Tian. It made for a very stark comparison.

The sounds of the surrounding conversations were quite loud and were clearly heard by Hu Fei, it made him tremble.

However, Hu Fei recovered from it in just a split second and continued to kowtow and beg for mercy from Duan Ling Tian as if he did not hear anything. "Duan Ling Tian, have mercy on me! Please, I beg you ... I beg you please!!"

"You're the bigger person, you're the bigger person! Have mercy on me! Please, I beg you ... I beg you please!"

Hu Fei's eyes were filled with indignation. He made a vow to himself in his heart. He would make Duan Ling Tian pay for what he did here today if he survived this.

"If Peak Master Cha Bai saw you kowtowing and begging for mercy from me without any sort of integrity or dignity... I probably wouldn't even need to dirty my hands since he'd probably kill you himself," Duan Ling Tian said coolly as he lifted the sword in his hand. His eyes were slightly narrowed.

When Hu Fei noticed out of the corner of his eyes that Duan Ling Tian had lifted his sword in preparation to kill him, his face changed. He stopped kowtowing and begging for mercy immediately as though he knew that his doom is imminent.

He then shifted his gaze to a Five Element Sect's Fire Peak's disciple standing not too far away as he transmitted his voice to the disciple's ear.

" "

"...If you do as I planned, I don't believe that the combined strength of a few strong youths from several of the major forces is unable to kill him!"

After Hu Fei ended his Voice Transmission, he looked at Duan Ling Tian and shouted, "Duan Ling Tian! I'll wait for you on the road to the netherworld!"

Duan Ling Tian could never have guessed that at the crucial moment between life and death, Hu Fei would finally stop begging for mercy. It seemed that Hu Fei's dignity and integrity had returned all of a sudden.

"I'm afraid that day will never come."

Duan Ling Tian expressionlessly swung his sword at once. With just a swing of his sword, he ended Hu Fei's life without facing any sort of resistance.

Boom!

Hu Fei's body fell on the floor as Duan Ling Tian took a deep breath. Signs of relief could be seen on his face.

Duan Ling Tian knew he had successfully dealt with a potential threat.

However, something went unnoticed by Duan Ling Tian. Among the disciples from Five Element Sect, one of the disciples from Fire Peak looked at Hu Fei's body with grief and indignation in his eyes. However, he managed to control his emotions and prevent them from showing.

There was a buzz among the group of Five Element Sect's disciples after seeing Hu Fei being killed even though no one felt the slightest pity toward Hu Fei.

He already had a bad reputation during the time he spent in Five Element Sect. He was known as the Ungrateful Bastard.

Obviously, many Five Element Sect's disciples were still unable to forgive Hu Fei for the preposterous action of betraying his master who had saved his life and cultivated him when he transferred from Wood Peak to Fire Peak.

Duan Ling Tian killed Hu Fei in such a short time and in such brief manner. This scared the young disciples from the other four major forces. Cold sweat began to form, they were afraid Duan Ling Tian would make a move against them.

The decisiveness in Duan Ling Tian's strike filled their heart with terror.

Under the watchful eyes of the onlookers, Duan Ling Tian focused his attention on the two black-clad youth standing aside by themselves after he killed Hu Fei. He said, "Both of you are very intelligent."

This two Sun Moon Sect's disciples were able to survive the massacre because the both of them did not take part in the battle against Duan Ling Tian.

Otherwise, they would undoubtedly be dead!

In the distant, the two Sun Moon Sect's disciples' faces blanched when they saw Duan Ling Tian's gaze on them. After they heard what Duan Ling Tian said, they both felt relieved.

Hu Lin, the strongest person among the current young generation in Sun Moon Sect, inhaled deeply before he asked the person next to him, "Now, what do you think?"

Zhang Ping, the second strongest person among the current young generation, had cold sweat on his forehead. After listening to Hu Lin's question, he forced a smile and said, "It's fortunate that I listened to your advice... Hu Lin, I owe you my life."

Initially, he had planned to join the other disciples from Sun Moon Sect to confront Duan Ling Tian and avenge Lu Kai.

At the crucial moment, Hu Lin had stopped him.

Recalling the attack utilized by Duan Ling Tian, cold sweat started to form on his forehead again like torrential rain.

The strongest person among the current younger generation in Empyrean Temple, Xuan Bei, who had stood quietly aside during the entire event, gazed at Duan Ling Tian and bluntly asked, "Duan Ling Tian... I look forward to battling you more and more! Shall we battle after we're done exploring the Martial Emperor's secret treasure?"

"Gladly!" Duan Ling Tian shrugged his shoulder indifferently, and continued saying, "However, the battle between us doesn't necessarily have to wait until we're done exploring the Martial Emperor's secret treasure to proceed... If you find any treasure that interests me in the Martial Emperor's secret treasure, we may need to battle it out."

After hearing what Duan Ling Tian had to say, Xuan Bei stared and him and questioned, "Oh, so you're planning to snatch things out of my hands?"

"Of course! As long there are things that interest me in your hands, I'll snatch it," Duan Ling Tian replied bluntly.

Xuan Bei took a deep breath before he said with anticipation on his face, "Sure, sure... Then I'll wait and see!" At the same time, Zhang Yan voice sounded from afar, "Let's go!"

Immediately after, Zhang Yan along with Qi Feng, Qin Kong, and seven other Emotion Severing Sect's disciples went down the stone staircase next to the stone platform into the pitch black bottomless abyss.

Meanwhile, Xuan Bei hailed a group of Empyrean Temple's disciples to keep up with them, "Keep up."

The two only surviving Sun Moon Sect's disciples strode toward the stairs and followed behind a group of young Empyrean Temple's disciples down the stone stairs.

A number of Five Element Sect's disciples whispered among themselves.

"Sun Moon Sect is really miserable...Twenty young disciples. The first one was killed by senior brother Ling Tian outside, then another seventeen were slaughtered here. Now there's only the two of them left."

"In my opinion, Skywolf Fort is the one that's truly unlucky!"

Chapter 947: The Long Winding Stone Staircase

"I agree. Skywolf Fort's disciples are the unluckiest!"

"First, an unlucky Skywolf Fort's disciple overestimated himself and decided to launch a sneak attack on Senior Brother Ling Tian which led to him slipping and falling into the Bottomless Abyss. I presume he's dead by now. Then the remaining nineteen of the twenty Skywolf Fort's disciples that came on this expedition were killed as well when they tried to attack Senior Brother Ling Tian unsuccessfully because they coveted senior brother Ling Tian's treasure!"

"I guess the five Vice Fort Masters of Skywolf Fort would be furious if they knew what had happened during the expedition!"

"Naturally, if they knew that all twenty Skywolf Fort's disciples that came on the expedition were killed before they even had a chance to venture deep into the Martial Emperor's Treasure ... they would definitely be shaking with anger."

• • •

The Five Element Sect's disciples were having an interesting discussion among themselves. Many of them were getting more and more excited as the discussion grew heated.

There was no exception, all of their eyes were filled with awe when they looked at the purple-clad Duan Ling Tian descending slowly from the Devilseal tablet.

"Senior Brother Ling Tian is so powerful!"

"Yes, I agree... Although I am confident about his abilities, I couldn't help but feel nervous for him when I saw he was surrounded by 48 young powerhouses."

"Me too. I couldn't believe my eyes when I saw senior brother

Ling Tian kill most of the 48 young powerhouses and injuring and crippling the rest with only a swing of his sword."

"I have decided! I'll follow Senior Brother Ling Tian's lead in the Martial Emperor's Treasure... Senior brother Ling Tian can have the lion's share. I'll follow him as long as I can scavenge from the scraps."

"You're smarter than you look!"

• • •

Duan Ling Tian overhead the conversation when he landed next to Feng Tian Wu, Huang Daniu, Su Li, and Zhang Shou Yong. He kept his Devilseal tablet, and he could not help but smile wryly after hearing the conversations.

The Blade Sect's disciples who were quietly standing at the side also turned to look at Duan Ling Tian with awe.

"Duan Ling Tian...Am I destined to be inferior to you in my entire life? Can I not surpass you?"

A Blade Sect's disciple looked at the Duan Ling Tian's silhouette with a complicated look in his eyes.

That disciple was none other than Long Yun!

Long Yun, the Blade Young Master, was one of the Five Young Masters in the Former Azure Forest Imperial Kingdom. Through a fortuitous opportunity, he was taken as a disciple by Saber 5, the Vice Sect Master of Blade Sect's House of Saber. This had helped him to make great improvements in his cultivation.

Later, Long Yun stood out in the Genius Competition at the Azure Forest Imperial Kingdom. He competed with the young powerhouses from different empires and kingdom along the way to obtain the eligibility to participate in the Martial Competition of the Ten Dynasties.

He was currently the official disciple of Blade Sect's House of

Saber after he followed Saber 5 back to Blade Sect.

Long Yun was one of the twenty young Blade Sect's disciples that were selected to enter the Martial Emperor's Treasure this time.

"Who would have thought... The youth first heard of in the martial competition among the Five Major Sects at Azure Forest Imperial Kingdom several years ago has now grown to such heights..." Long Yun sighed, he could not help but feel defeated.

"Let's go."

Duan Ling Tian only smiled calmly when he noticed everyone's attention was on him. He motioned for them to go down along the stone staircase by the side of the platform.

Feng Tian Wu followed Duan Ling Tian down, along with Huang Daniu, Su Li, and Zhang Shou Yong.

The rest of the disciples from Five Element Sect and Blade Sect went down the stone staircase with them as well.

Disciples from Five Element Sect were led by Duan Ling Tian while disciples from Blade Sect followed Feng Tian Wu.

Brothers Nangong Chen and Nangong Yi followed behind the group as they looked at the leading purple-clad youth with eyes filled with complicated feelings.

Both of them were once the most brilliant disciples of their generation in the Five Element Sect.

However, Duan Ling Tian had taken away all the honor and glory that was once theirs since the day he turned up at the sect.

"If we continue to be complacent... I'm afraid we'll never be able to surpass him," Nangong Yi said with a bitter smile.

Although Duan Ling Tian took away his glory, he did not hate Duan Ling Tian for it.

This was because Duan Ling Tian achieved that with his strength and by honorable means, not by means of schemes and lies.

Maybe Nangong Yi had lost, but he was sincerely convinced that Duan Ling Tian was better than him.

In Nangong Yi's opinion, if he wanted to regain his former glory he would need to surpass Duan Ling Tian. When the time came, all his former glory would then be restored naturally.

"I'll definitely surpass him." Nangong Chen was a man of few words, but his determination echoed in his voice as his eyes gleamed resolutely.

It was apparent the Nangong twins were under severe pressure due to the dominating and sudden appearance of Duan Ling Tian.

It was a kind of pressure that they had never faced before in the past

At this moment, their Martial Dao's hearts were being purified. They had a common goal and it was to surpass Duan Ling Tian!

"Between the two of us ... whoever is the first to surpass him shall be the elder brother! Do you agree?" Nangong Yi challenged Nangong Chen to a bet between brothers. He looked at Nangong Chen with a raised eyebrow.

"You better prepare to address me as elder brother then," Nangong Chen said coolly with a straight face.

"We shall see!" Nangong Yi murmured with a flash in his eyes.

Nangong Yi understood that his brother's strength was better than his at the moment.

The reason he made such a pact with Nangong Chen was to motivate himself to surpass his brother and even Duan Ling Tian!

There was no motivation without some stress.

Naturally, Duan Ling Tian was unaware of what had happened between the Nangong Twins. He did not know that he had been set as a benchmark, a target for them to work hard and surpass.

"It's getting darker."

Duan Ling Tian and Feng Tian Wu led the way down the stone staircase with a group of disciples from Five Element Sect and Blade Sect following behind.

The silhouettes of disciples from Empyrean Temple led by Xuan Bei along with the two Sun Moon Sect's disciples who was slowly traveling ahead vanished before their eyes and left them in darkness.

After a while in the darkness, a flame burst out of Feng Tian Wu's body and illuminated the surroundings. However, the area that was illuminated was limited.

Inspired by Feng Tian Wu, a flame rose up among the group of Empyrean Temple's disciples not long after Feng Tian Wu's flames appeared.

Moments later, a flame could be seen rising in front of the disciples of Empyrean Temple and the two Sun Moon Sect's disciples That was the place where Zhang Yan who was leading the group of Emotion Severing Sect's disciples was situated.

With Emotion Severing Sect, Empyrean Temple, and Sun Moon Sect's people leading the way, the disciples from Five Element Sect and Blade Sect heaved a sigh of relief and trailed behind them.

"How long is this stone staircase?"

After an hour of traveling, the end of the stone staircase was still not in sight. Duan Ling Tian could not help but narrow his eyes. He looked puzzled.

"The group from Emotion Severing Sect has turned," a disciple from Five Element Sect exclaimed and startled Duan Ling Tian.

Duan Ling Tian lifted his head after he heard the comment. He noticed the fire in the lead was moving toward the left side, but he could not make out the details as they were too far apart.

Moments later, the disciples from Emotion Severing Sect moved to the bottom left of Duan Ling Tian's sight A while later, the disciples of Empyrean Temple along with the two Sun Moon Sect's disciples turned left as well and followed the Emotion Severing Sect down.

When they came closer, Duan Ling Tian noticed that they had reached the end of the stone staircase through the illumination from the flames rising from Feng Tian Wu's body.

Naturally, this was only the end of the stone staircase in this direction.

The stone staircase in front turned and led to the bottom left, leading to a new undiscovered stairway.

"This stone stairs won't be endless right?"

Duan Ling Tian, Huang Daniu, and the rest turned left and traveled down. Huang Daniu began to complain with an impatient look on his face, "We've already traveled for more than an hour... Yi, they've picked up the pace!"

Huang Daniu noticed the lights from the group of people from Emotion Severing Sect suddenly picked up the pace and flew ahead in a flash before he could even finish his sentence.

The lights from the Empyrean Temple also sped up immediately after that.

"Follow them!" Duan Ling Tian said to the others with a raised eyebrow before he flew ahead to catch up with the rest.

Shou! Shou! Shou! Shou! Shou! Shou!

• • •

One by one, the disciples from Five Element Sect and Blade Sect followed Duan Ling Tian's lead.

At the entrance of Martial Emperor's Treasure above the majestic door, outside of the layer of grey light shield, the senior officials from the six major forces were standing there closely as they monitored the grey light shield as though they could see through it and see what was happening inside.

The greyish white shield had become darker since Duan Ling Tian had first passed through to reach the platform. This clouded the visions of the people who wanted to find out about the situation inside.

That was why whatever that had happened inside after Duan Ling Tian went in was unknown to the people outside.

"Sword 13, Saber 5... I originally thought Duan Ling Tian would be admitted into Blade Sect, I didn't expect that he would end up joining Five Element Sect instead."

Skywolf Fort's Vice Fort Master Ning Can looked at the two middle-aged men nearby and laughed mockingly.

Saber 5's face darkened after listening to Ning Can. He furiously replied, "Ning Can, if it was not for the intrusion from Skywolf Fort... Duan Ling Tian wouldn't have disappeared suddenly."

Sword 1's face looked annoyed as well

There was no doubt what Ning Can said was akin to rubbing salt on Blade Sect's wound.

The events that led to Duan Ling Tian going missing would not have happened in the first place if it was not for Skywolf Fort's intrusion and kidnap of Duan Ling Tian.

"Humph! Listen up the five of you... After the little ones are finished exploring the Martial Emperor's secret treasure, the both of us will pay Skywolf Fort a visit and get an explanation from Qing Lang!" House of Saber's Sect Master from Blade Sect exclaimed. His sharp gaze swept pass the five Vice Fort Masters' bodies.

"If Qing Lang can't give us a satisfactory explanation... I might need to stretch this old body's bones," the Sect Master of the House of Sword sternly added. They knew about the incident that happened several months ago, but they did not care at that time.

At that time, in their opinion, they did not need to tear off the veneer of mutual respect for a quasi-disciple from the House of Sword that had not even pass the rudimentary stage.

However, they could not have guessed that the quasi-disciple from the House of Sword that they did not care about was innately talented and cunning.

Throughout the history of Blade sect, there had never been a monster that was so innately talented and cunning that he could kill a Ninth Level Void Interpretation martial artist, who used a grade two spirit weapon, with only a punch. Moreover, he was under the age of thirty.

Chapter 948: Entrance No.2?

Because of Skywolf Fort, this young powerhouse that could be considered as the ultimate freak did not join the Blade Sect and become their disciple in the end.

How could they not be mad?!

When the five Vice Fort Masters from Skywolf Fort heard the two Blade Sect Leaders' words, they merely frowned and were not really bothered by it.

If the two old men from Blade Sect could fight against the Fort Master of Skywolf Fort, their sect would not have been able to stand firm and mighty until now.

The four great forces in the southern district of the northern desert were evenly matched in strength, and for this reason, none of the sects dared to simply issue a challenge to another sect. They also had to guarantee that the powerhouses in their own force would not be hurt. Otherwise, even after they had annihilated the other force, the other two forces would seize the chance to annihilate them instead.

Just like how the saying went, 'When the snipe and the clam grapple, it is the fisherman who profits!'

The senior officials from the Five Element Sect were standing at the side with Guo Chong and Qi Yu as the leader.

"Looks like luck is on our Five Element Sect's side." From the snippets of conversation between the senior officials from the Blade Sect and Skywolf Fort, Guo Chong, the Sect Leader of Five Element Sect, could guess what they were talking of. For a moment, he could not suppress the laughter that boiled up from his chest.

He only just found out that Duan Ling Tian originally was going to join Blade Sect. Due to Skywold Fort's disturbance, Duan Ling Tian eventually went to the eastern district of the northern desert and joined their Five Element Sect by coincidence.

"It must be fate that brought him to our Five Element Sect," Qi Yu smiled warmly as his eyes gleamed.

The 'him' that Qi Yu meant was none other than Duan Ling Tian.

"I hope Duan Ling Tian will surprise us. However, it doesn't matter even if he doesn't find any Profundity Fragment. With the Ninth Level Advance Water Concept and Ninth Level Advance Fire Concept that you've comprehended, making a breakthrough to the Martial Monarch Stage is just a matter of time." Guo Chong looked at Qi Yu, his eyes were gleaming as brightly as an array of stars.

"Don't count on me too much." Qi Yu shook his head. "You must know that if I really made a breakthrough to the Martial Monarch Stage, I won't be staying on at the northern desert. You know very well what I yearn for. If it was not for the accident that happened twenty over years ago, I might not be in the northern desert right now."

When Qi Yu reached the end of his sentence, he shifted his gaze to the northern direction. There was a look of longing in his eyes.

"At first I thought that you've already dismissed the idea of leaving the northern desert to go make a living wandering from place to place at the central zone of the Cloud Continent long ago. I didn't expect that you still want to go there now." Guo Chong let out a wry smile. A look of helplessness crept up in between his eyebrows.

"There are some things that'll never change forever," Qi Yu muttered.

Beyond the great door that was being shrouded by the grey halo, above the stone ladder beside the high platform, Duan Ling Tian and the others finally reached the true end of the stone ladder after being inside for more than ten hours.

All the way from the stone ladder, the group of people finally arrived at an empty platform. The platform was surrounded by a dark fog, and nobody could see anything inside.

"What is this place?" The young disciples from each sect had a perplexed look on their faces.

Duan Ling Tian stood on the high platform as he extended his Spiritual Energy with the intention to probe the situation behind the dark fog, but he found out that there was an Inscription Formation that prevented his Spiritual Energy from approaching.

Suddenly, a hoary and ancient voice resonated from all directions, sharply entering everybody's ears, including Duan Ling Tian's, "Welcome, the young people who entered from Entrance No.2."

At that moment, everybody was thunderstruck.

After being stunned for a moment, Duan Ling Tian immediately returned to his senses. He took a good look at the surroundings and finally found out that it was the Polyphony Formation. The Polyphony Formation was an Inscription Formation that was more or less like the voice transmission jade slips.

Once the Polyphony Formation was set up, you could plant your own voice in it. If the Polyphony Formation was triggered, the sound would be transmitted to the ears of the people nearby.

"Is the owner of the voice just now the Martial Emperor who left this secret treasure behind?" Duan Ling Tian took a deep breath, he could faintly guess the person's identity.

"Who is that?!"

"Stop playing tricks! Show your face if you dare!"

• • •

Many of the young disciples who were shocked till they turned ghastly pale were looking around at the surroundings while grumbling frantically at the same time. They tried to use their voices to hide the terror that rose up in their hearts.

"Stop shouting! There's nobody else here other than us," Hu Lin, the Sun Moon Sect's disciple, chimed in nonchalantly. Although his voice was not loud, it was filled with Origin Energy that easily overcame the frantic grumbles of the disciples from each force.

"Huh?" The young disciples from each sect quieted down immediately and shifted their attention to Hu Lin.

"What did you say? Did you say that other than us, there's nobody here?" The disciples from each sect stared at Hu Lin with a look of disbelief on their faces. It was apparent that they did not believe him.

"If you don't believe me, you can ask Duan Ling Tian... I think he knows better than I do about the situation that happened earlier." Faced with so many inquisitive eyes, Hu Lin shrugged and immediately looked at Duan Ling Tian as if he wanted Duan Ling Tian to clean up the mess.

As the group of young disciples from Five Element Sect, Blade Sect, Empyrean Temple and Emotion Severing Sect shifted their attention to Duan Ling Tian, he immediately became the focal point of the crowd.

Duan Ling Tian cast a meaningful glance at Hu Lin. He did not expect this Sun Moon Sect's disciple to have such a shocking observation. He knew that Hu Lin said that because he had noticed the enlightened look on his own face and could figure something out from it.

Duan Ling Tian exhaled before he shifted his gaze to the group of young disciples and glanced at each and every one of them. "He's right, there's nobody else here apart from us."

The young disciples from the four sects could choose to not believe Hu Lin but they dared not question the words that came out of Duan Ling Tian at all.

"If there's nobody else, how do you explain the voice from earlier?"

"Yeah, we all heard it clearly. It was a hoary and ancient voice. It's apparent that an old man was talking to us."

"That old man seemed to be welcoming us."

...

Although the young disciples of the four great forces did not dare to question Duan Ling Tian, they still could not help but whisper to one another and expressed their doubts.

"An old man?" Duan Ling Tian shook his head. "Do you think an old man would be able to pass through that age-examining Inscription Formation and enter this Martial Emperor's secret treasure?"

Upon hearing Duan Ling Tian's words, the entire scene went dead silent.

At this time, Duan Ling Tian continued, "The voice earlier actually is a voice that's spread out by an Inscription Formation that's known as the Polyphony Formation. That Polyphony Formation has the same principle as the voice transmission jade slips. The latter requires a martial artist to use his Origin Energy to activate it, and it can only be heard by one person. However, the former can be triggered by a variety of ways, and it can convey the voice in the way a normal person speaks."

After explaining everything in one breath, Duan Ling Tian added, "Although this Polyphony Formation is not a complicated Inscription Formation, the amount of Spiritual Energy that is required is extremely high. It needs a Spiritual Energy that is at least at the Martial Emperor Stage or above to inscribe and set up."

The Polyphony Formation?

An Inscription Formation that could only be inscribed and set up by a Martial Emperor Stage Inscription Master?

Upon hearing Duan Ling Tian's words, the young disciples of the four sects, including Feng Tian Wu, Xuan Bei, and Zhang Yan, were all dumbfounded. They were stunned for a long time before they finally regained their senses.

Before the young disciples of the four major sects regained their senses, Duan Ling Tian shifted his attention to Hu Lin, the Sun Moon Sect's disciple, before asking curiously, "You know about the Polyphony Formation?"

"I've seen its record in an ancient scripture before," Hu Lin nodded.

At this time, the young disciples of the four major sects regained their senses one by one.

"Since the Polyphony Formation is an Inscription Formation that was left behind by a Martial Emperor Stage Inscription Master, could it be that the voice earlier actually belonged to him?"

"I think it's highly likely that he's the Martial Emperor who left this secret treasure behind!"

"No wonder he said 'welcome' to us!"

• • •

The young disciples of the four major sects buried their heads together in a heated discussion. Very soon, they got an answer — the owner of the voice earlier was the Martial Emperor who left this secret treasure behind.

"Welcome, the young people who entered from Entrance No.2."

The crowd was still on tenterhooks when the hoary and ancient voice resonated again from all directions, sharply entering everybody's ears. This time, the crowd that was already mentally prepared did not lose their cool like they did before.

However, there were still some timid female disciples from each sect who were scared and became entirely pale. Their petite bodies trembled slightly as though they were about to faint.

"Entrance No.2?"

This time, many people started to pay attention to the wording and were able to make out one thing from the Martial Emperor's words.

"That Martial Emperor said that we're the young people who entered from Entrance No. 2? Don't tell me that there are more young people who entered from Entrance No. 1, No. 3, No. 4 and No. 5?" Huang Daniu's eyes were as big as saucers as he queried with a bewildered look on his face.

Huang Daniu's voice was heard by all the young disciples from each sect. Many of them were immediately thunderstruck.

Initially, they thought that they were the only people entering the Martial Emperor's secrets treasure. Since Duan Ling Tian had killed so many people, they thought that each of them would be able to get quite a handful of loots since the competition was no longer as big anymore.

However, right now, they realized that the people who entered the Martial Emperor's secret treasure were not only them, the young disciples from the six major forces. Other than the entrance that they entered earlier, the Martial Emperor's secret treasure still had other entrances.

This fact could be figured out from the Martial Emperor's words earlier.

"What should we do?! It turns out that this Martial Emperor's secret treasure still has other entrances! And the thing is, we don't even know how powerful these young powerhouses coming from the other entrances are! There won't be any young disciples from the second-rate forces right?" A Blade Sect's disciple gasped and

muttered to himself.

Although his voice was not loud and did not contain any Origin Energy, it could still clearly be heard by everyone due to the deadly silence.

Other than a few young men whose eyes were gleaming with strong battle intent — like Duan Ling Tian, Feng Tian Wu, Xuan Bei, and Zhang Yan — horror dawned on the rest of the people immediately.

Chapter 949: Emperor Stage Profundity

Indeed.

Since this Martial Emperor's secret treasure might have other entrances, these entrances would definitely be found by other people too.

Once they were found, the news would surely spread out.

At that time, other sects that were near the entrances would definitely send in their young disciples below forty years of age here to search for treasures in the Martial Emperor's secret treasure as well.

Even a second-rate force would be tempted by the treasures inside the Martial Emperor's secret treasures. The second-rate force was ranked higher than their third-rate force. Moreover, they also had a Martial Emperor guarding their force.

These kinds of sects would have no shortage of young disciples that possessed insane innate ability and bizarre comprehension level. Apart from that, these young disciples would certainly possess an overall strength that was greater than theirs.

After all, they were only the disciples of third-rate forces.

Not mentioning the fact that, this time, even if it was not the young disciples from second-rate forces but other third-rate forces who entered the other entrances instead, they would also feel a great pressure because this meant that they would have to share the goodies with a larger group of people.

The young disciples from the second-rate forces were generally more powerful than them. For this reason, they would have to face the fact that they might be beaten since they could not fight nor win against them. It would eventually cause them to go home empty-handed.

On top of that, there was also a possibility that they might not

even be able to go home empty-handed. Who knew if among the young disciples from the second-rate forces there might be some ruthless ones who would just kill them off indiscriminately the moment they laid their eyes on them.

The moment they thought of these, many of the disciples from each sect were immediately burdened with a great pressure.

A Five Element Sect's disciple took a deep breath before he remarked, "Perhaps, among all of us Five Element Sect's disciples, only Duan Ling Tian has fear against the young disciples from the second-rate forces! Even Senior Brothers Chen, Yi, and Daniu would most likely be at a great disadvantage if they come across the outstanding young disciples from the second-rate forces." There was a horrified look on his face as his gaze landed on Duan Ling Tian before sweeping across Nangong Chen, Nangong Yi, and Huang Daniu.

The other Five Element Sect's disciples agreed with the comment from this Five Element Sect's disciple as well.

After all, they did witness Duan Ling Tian's power before. They believed that even the outstanding ones among the second-rate young disciples might not necessarily be a match for their Senior Brother Ling Tian.

Very soon, some of the disciples from the Five Element Sect had their gazes locked on Duan Ling Tian as they announced resolutely, "What are you scared of?! I've decided anyway that this time for this Martial Emperor's secret treasure's trip, I'll follow Senior Brother Ling Tian... With him here, even if I can't get my hands on a lot of treasure, I can at least assure that my life is protected!"

"I also want to follow Duan Ling Tian. Although the treasures in the Martial Emperor's secret treasure are good, it's still not as important as my own life!"

"Of course! I would only feel a slight pang of regret if I lose the

treasure, but if I lose my life, everything will be gone instantly!"

"My life is more important than anything else! I've decided that I'll be by Senior Brother Ling Tian's side as well."

• • •

The Five Element Sect's disciples were in a heated discussion. At the same time, they were staring intensely at the purple-clad young man, Duan Ling Tian, who was standing nearby.

At this moment, Duan Ling Tian was standing there looking around at his surroundings as though he was observing something.

All the same, other than the two remaining Sun Moon Sect's disciples, the group of Blade Sect's disciples began to shift closer to Feng Tian Wu, wanting to seek shelter from her.

One by one, the Empyrean Temple's disciples were also beginning to stick closely to Xuan Bei, the strongest person among the Empyrean Temple's young disciples.

There were only eight people left in the Emotion Severing Sect currently. Zhang Yan stood there with a calm look on his face. The fact that there were other entrances in the Martial Emperor's secret treasure failed to elicit any emotion from his heart at all.

Qi Feng, Qin Hao, and the other five Emotion Severing Sect's disciples were following closely beside him. Zhang Yan was not afraid, but it did not mean that they were not afraid as well.

"Big Brother Duan," Seeing the frown on Duan Ling Tian's face, Feng Tian Wu who stood by the side, immediately had a look of doubt on her face. She could faintly feel that her Big Brother Duan had discovered something.

Huang Daniu, Su Li, and Zhang Shou Yong who were standing not far away also immediately noticed that something was amiss.

"Duan Ling Tian, what's wrong?" Huang Daniu asked loudly. There was a slight bit of anxiety in his tone.

Like a thunder, Huang Daniu's voice immediately attracted the attention of the other disciples from various sects as their gazes shifted to him immediately.

The frown on Duan Ling Tian's face eased as he announced slowly, "I'm afraid it looks like we'll have to go our separate ways eventually."

"Huh?" Upon hearing his words, everyone became puzzled and completely at loss.

At this moment, the hoary and ancient voice continued to announce, "The lads who entered from Entrance No. 2, once you've entered the surrounding dark fog, you'll be able to enter the real Martial Emperor's secret treasure in no time! There are many treasures that I've accumulated throughout my life in the Martial Emperor's secret treasure. Out of all of them, the most precious ones were none other than the five Monarch Stage Profundity Fragments! Other than that, there's a palace in the center of the Martial Emperor's secret treasure that I left behind. That is the place where my life ended. The wealth that I've accumulated throughout my life has been scattered throughout the Martial Emperor's secret treasure, and if you want to get them, you'll have to search for them on your own. The things that you can obtain from the place where my life ended are the two Monarch Stage Profundity Fragments and one Emperor Stage Profundity Fragment."

The hoary and ancient voice came to an abrupt end.

All of a sudden, the young disciples from all the major sects, including Duan Ling Tian, stood there dumbfounded. Their eyes were completely stunned as glimpses of light flashed within.

"E-Eight Profundity Fragments? Did I hear correctly?" Huang Daniu murmured and gasped in disbelief.

Zhang Shou Yong shook his head as he replied in bewilderment, "You did! It's indeed eight Profundity Fragments! Seven Monarch

Stage Profundity Fragments and one Emperor Stage Profundity Fragment." Right now, he appeared to be beside himself. His mind had long gone off to somewhere else.

"Emperor Stage Profundity Fragment? What is that?" Scowling, Feng Tian Wu's face was filled with puzzlement.

Upon hearing Feng Tian Wu's question, Duan Ling Tian ransacked the memory of the Rebirth Martial Emperor before he replied, "The Profundity that a Martial Emperor possessed is usually the Emperor Stage Profundity. If a Ninth Level Martial Monarch Stage powerhouse wants to make a breakthrough to the Martial Emperor Stage, he would have to first comprehend the Emperor Stage Profundity. The Emperor Stage Profundity is the permit for a Ninth Level Martial Monarch Stage powerhouse to enter the Martial Emperor Stage."

The significance of the Emperor Stage Profundity to a Ninth Level Martial Monarch Stage powerhouse was similar to the significance of the Void Transformation Stage to a Ninth Level Void Interpretation powerhouse or the Monarch Stage Profundity to a Ninth Level Void Transformation powerhouse.

If one did not comprehend it, one would not be able to make a breakthrough to the next stage!

"If we say that a Ninth Level Void Transformation powerhouse would never be able to make a breakthrough to the Martial Monarch Stage and become a Martial Monarch Stage powerhouse without the Monarch Stage Profundity, then a Ninth Level Monarch Stage powerhouse would also never be able to make a breakthrough to the Martial Emperor Stage and become a Martial Emperor Stage powerhouse if he's without the Emperor Stage Profundity," Duan Ling Tian explained word by word.

All of this information undoubtedly came from Rebirth Martial Emperor's memory.

Uproar!

The instance these words left Duan Ling Tian's mouth, the crowds burst into an uproar of commotion.

Although the people present could vaguely figure out that it must have something to do with the Martial Emperor powerhouse the moment they heard about the Emperor Stage Profundity from the message left behind by the Martial Emperor powerhouse, they still could not help but gasp out loud the moment they found out about the exact function of that Emperor Stage Profundity Fragment.

"So, this is to say that the Emperor Stage Profundity Fragment is more valuable than the Monarch Stage Profundity Fragment?" Huang Daniu's breathing became rapid. He panted loudly non-stop, and his chest rose up and down. He could not calm down for a long time.

"Of course!" Duan Ling Tian nodded before continuing with a solemn look, "The difficulty faced by a Ninth Level Monarch Emperor powerhouse to break through to the Martial Emperor Stage is more than a hundred times harder than a Ninth Level Void Transformation martial artist to the Martial Monarch Stage! And, it's exactly because of this reason that it's difficult for them to comprehend the Emperor Stage Profundity. However, if there's an Emperor Stage Profundity Fragment that suits them, they would be able to comprehend the Emperor Stage Profundity in one fell swoop and complete the cultivation of the Martial Emperor Stage to become a Martial Emperor!" As he explained to the end, Duan Ling Tian could not suppress the excitement that boiled up from his chest as well. His eyes were shining and gleaming brightly with enthusiasm.

Emperor Stage Profundity Fragment!

He must admit that he was intrigued as well.

"In the Martial Emperor's message, we'll enter the real Martial Emperor's secret treasure once we enter the surrounding dark fog!" One disciple from who-knew-what-sect interjected all of a sudden.

Right away, everybody, except for Duan Ling Tian, turned their attention toward the dark fog surrounding the platform they were standing on.

"Let's go!" With an order, Zhang Yan led Qi Feng, Qin Hao, and five other disciples from the Emotion Severing Sect as they flew out one by one to enter the dark fog surrounding the platform.

In a blink of an eye, the eight figures from Emotion Severing Sect, including Zhang Yan, disappeared before Duan Ling Tian and the others.

"Duan Ling Tian, I'll also go in first." At this moment, Xuan Bei nodded his head at Duan Ling Tian. After bidding goodbye to Duan Ling Tian, he flew into the surrounding dark fog as well.

Nineteen Empyrean Temple's disciples, including Ou Chen, followed suit like shadows.

After the two Sun Moon Sect's disciples nodded at Duan Ling Tian in a friendly manner, they flew into the dark fog as well.

"Duan Ling Tian, although you've killed so many Sun Moon Sect's disciples, it doesn't seem like those two are harboring any hatred toward you at all. Moreover, they even greeted you so amicably." Huang Daniu stared at the direction where the two Sun Moon Sect's disciples disappeared into and could not suppress the shock that he felt.

"They're wise people," Duan Ling Tian said with a faint smile.

"This I must admit! If they're not wise, they would have most likely ended up in two or three pieces like the other Sun Moon Sect's disciples." The moment Huang Daniu recalled the blow that Duan Ling Tian had demonstrated on the high platform earlier, he still could feel shivers running down his spine.

Who would have thought that Duan Ling Tin who was usually gentle and courteous would have such a bloody side?

At that time, Duan Ling Tian was like the Asura that crept up

from purgatory, and in his wrath, blood became river while bodies became a mountain.

"Big Brother Duan, let's go in as well." Feng Tian Wu motioned to Duan Ling Tian.

Chapter 950: Second-Rate Forces

"Perhaps, we can't go in together," Duan Ling Tian shook his head when he saw Feng Tian Wu motioning him.

"Why?" Feng Tian Wu was stunned for a moment. Puzzlement was written on her face.

The Five Element Sect and Blade Sect's disciples, including Huang Daniu, were all looking at Duan Ling Tian with a perplexed look. They did not understand what Duan Ling Tian meant by that.

"I've probed around the dark fog, and it turns out that there are a series of Inscription Formations that are lined up together to form an illusion. The numbers of formations were more than I expected!" Duan Ling Tian took a deep breath as he looked at the surrounding dark fog with dread. He muttered, "These Inscription Formations have only one function, and that is to separate people in the fog and place them separately in every corner of the Martial Emperor's secret treasure!"

As a person whose memory was integrated with the Rebirth Martial Emperor's memory, it was natural that he knew the reason why these Inscription Formations existed behind the dark fog.

The main purpose was to separate people who gathered together and scatter them all over the place so they would have to go through a cruel survival test where the law of the jungle would be applied in which the strongest would survive.

Only the people who had survived at the end would get the rewards.

"So that's how it is." A pang of realization hit Feng Tian Wu.

Huang Daniu looked at Duan Ling Tian, and he smiled wryly. "Originally, I wanted to stay beside you so that I'll have a safeguard, but it looks like this idea of mine is dashed to pieces

now."

Swish! Swish!

Just as Huang Daniu's words left his mouth, two figures swept out like a gust of wind and immediately entered the dark fog surrounding the platform, disappearing in just a blink of an eye.

"It's Senior Brother Chen and Yi!" One Five Element Sect disciple exclaimed.

"Let's go." Duan Ling Tian raised his brows as he strode toward the dark fog surrounding the platform. He was about to enter the Martial Emperor's secret treasure.

Feng Tian Wu, Huang Daniu, Su Li, and Zhang Shou Yong followed suit as well.

Very soon, Duan Ling Tian noticed that the Five Element Sect's and Blade Sect's disciples followed behind them in a group as though they did not believe his words. He felt a little helpless about it.

"Do these people think that I was lying to them earlier?" Duan Ling Tian could not suppress the wry smile that crept up on his face.

However, he did not say anything further. Once this group of people entered the dark fog, they would naturally know that what he said was true.

After a moment, the group of people, with Duan Ling Tian in the lead, entered the dark fog shrouding the platform in a huge formation.

Duan Ling Tian entered the dark fog first, and his figure vanished without a trace.

Feng Tian Wu, Huang Daniu, Su Li, and Zhang Shou Yong followed suit from behind.

Behind the four of them was a group of Five Element Sect's and

Blade Sect's disciples who followed them in succession. All of them entered the dark fog, and their figures were completely engulfed in it.

For a moment, the vast platform shrouded by the dark fog became empty.

After Duan Ling Tian had entered the dark fog, all he could see was a light that flashed across his eyes, and he immediately found himself alone in a vast grassland.

The grassland had a beautiful environment with different shades of green that stretched as far as eyes could see.

"Head northwest. At the end of the grassland lies the real entrance to the Martial Emperor's secret treasure!" At the same time, a hoary and ancient voice entered Duan Ling Tian's ears sharply. It was a message that was left behind by the Martial Emperor who left the secret treasure behind.

'It seems like, among the Inscription Formations in the dark fog that could create illusions, there are some that are accompanied by the Polyphony Formation,' Duan Ling Tian thought to himself.

Although he knew everything before him now was merely an illusion, he also knew that he needed to act according to the message left behind by the Martial Emperor.

Only then he could enter the real Martial Emperor's secret treasure.

At this moment, Duan Ling Tian who was placed in the illusion was destined to be isolated and go his own way.

'I should be able to fly here right?' Duan Ling Tian thought to himself.

As soon as the thought formed in his mind, he tried to rise up in the air. With a leap, his entire being soared up in the sky. "Just like I thought!" The moment Duan Ling Tian discovered that this place was not shrouded by the Flight Prohibiting Formation, he could not suppress a sigh of relief.

It would not be a problem for him to cross the enormous grassland by feet, but it would consume more energy than flying.

"As expected from the illusion created by the Inscription Formation that was inscribed and laid out by a Martial Emperor. It's indeed tough!" As Duan Ling Tian was flying, he extended his Spiritual Energy out in an attempt to move the illusion, but eventually, he found out that the illusion would not even budge at all.

However, he was already mentally prepared for this discovery so he was not taken aback at all.

After all, that was the Inscription Formation that was laid out by a Martial Emperor. If it really could be moved by him, he would be shocked instead.

"There shouldn't be any test here in the illusion right?" Duan Ling Tian murmured as his heart jolted.

Not too long after Duan Ling Tian began flying, he could not suppress a wry smile from forming on his face. "Looks like I'm quite a jinx. It appears that there are a few offensive Inscription Formations inside the Inscription Formation that formed this Illusion."

Just as Duan Ling Tian smiled wryly, gusts of wind surged from the sky where he passed by. The vast hurricane swept across the sky and swept toward Duan Ling Tian.

The wind raged, and a series of solidified blue wind blade followed closely like a shadow before it swept over him and covered him as though it was trying to tear him into pieces.

'Whoosh!' After Duan Ling Tian extended his Spiritual Energy and sensed the intensity of these hurricanes and wind blades, he heaved a sigh of relief.

The intensity of these hurricane and wind blades was at most equivalent to a Fifth or Sixth Level Void Transformation martial artist who had comprehended the Fifth or Sixth Intermediate Wind Concept. It was not a threat to him at all.

Whoosh!

Duan Ling Tian's gaze cooled down, and he immediately punched a fist out. It was remarkably earth-shattering because he had exerted his full energy.

Boom! Boom! Boom! Boom! Boom!

...

A series of thunderous explosion sound reverberated in the air in successively as it echoed in the vast sky, playing havoc with one's heart.

Boom!

A deafening sound exploded but that was none other than Duan Ling Tian's fist that contained the strength of 800 ancient horned dragons. Like a cannonball, it crashed with the hurricane and the series of wind blades that closely followed the hurricane like a shadow.

When the First Level Void Transformation's cultivation base was fully released, it was equivalent to the strength of 200 ancient horned dragons.

The Second Level Advance Wind Concept was equivalent to the strength of 300 ancient horned dragons.

Three types of Ninth Level Void Interpretation Concepts added up together were also equivalent to the strength of 300 ancient horned dragons.

When this strong energy swept out, it crushed the hurricane and the wind blades like dried leaves, causing them to dissipate right before Duan Ling Tian's eyes.

Boom! Boom! Boom! Boom!

• • •

After crushing the hurricane and the wind blades, the energy that rose out from Duan Ling Tian's fist slashed the wide sky open with an undiminished power, and it once again set off a series of ear-piercing explosions.

It was only until the energy fully faded before his eyes that the surrounding sky finally regained its tranquility.

"Fuck yeah!" Duan Ling Tian who had unleashed his full energy in just a punch cursed out loudly in delight.

He did not hold any of his power back at all in the punch earlier. With all of his Origin Energy exploded out, and the four Concepts followed suit like a shadow, it made his blood boiled with indignation.

"Let's go!" Duan Ling Tian heaved a sigh of relief as he continued to head to the direction pointed out in the message left behind by the Martial Emperor. He flew northwest as he continued to head toward the real Martial Emperor's secret treasure.

Along the way, Duan Ling Tian was continuously disturbed by a variety of offensive Inscription Formations. However, in front of his overbearing energy, the energy that was released by these Inscription Formations was all shattered by him in one blow without any accident.

Duan Ling Tian, who possessed a cultivation base at the First Level Void Transformation and comprehended three Ninth Level Void Interpretation Concepts and one Second Level Void Transformation Concept, was like an invincible beast that was on a rampage during his journey in this illusion.

"I wonder how are the others coping right now." After ten days, Duan Ling Tian had yet to enter the real Martial Emperor's secret treasure. Bored, he could not help but think of the others.

He knew that the others had to be in a similar situation and experience like him currently.

'The purpose of this Inscription Formation is to place me in some corner of the Martial Emperor's secret treasure. Although I've been traveling for ten days at full speed, I still have yet to arrive at the destination.' The moment he thought of this, Duan Ling Tian could not suppress a wry smile from forming on his face.

However, he also knew that he had no other choice other than to earnestly hurry on with his journey.

Only in this way, he could enter the real Martial Emperor's secret treasure.

Beginning from the center zone all the way to the northern district, the northern desert was split into two regions with another one being the western, southern and eastern district.

In the latter region, the third-rate forces were the one in power.

As for the former, which was the center zone and the northern district of the northern desert, there were three powerful forces that were also the three colossuses in the northern desert.

These three colossuses were all, without exceptions, second-rate forces.

All of the second-rate forces in the Cloud Continent had myriads of strong powerhouses. What was more important was that they had Martial Emperors in their sects, unlike the third-rate forces.

There was a traversing mountain range at the juncture between the central zone and the northern district of the northern desert where it was desolated and uninhabited. Very few people would come over here.

However, many people were here today.

Swoosh! Swoosh! Swoosh! Swoosh!

...

A succession of swift figures flew across the sky from the north and reached the sky above the traversing mountain range in just a blink of an eye.

There were a total of eleven of them.

The person leading the group was a thin, aloof-looking old man dressed fully in gray. When he was flying across the sky, a gust of wind could be seen parting not far in front of him.

One could see just how profound this old man's cultivation base was.

Behind the gray-clad old man were eight young men and two young women. All of them had one thing in common, and that was they did not look like they were over 40 years old.

"Supreme Elder, are we late?" A green-clad handsome young man with dashing eyebrows and sharp eyes, who was carrying a long sheathed sword at his back behind the gray-clad old man, asked.

"It's just a few hours. Don't worry about it." The gray-clad old man shook his head, it was apparent that he was not bothered about it.

A moment later, the gray-clad old man dived down and led the ten young men and women into the transversing mountain range before coming to a halt at the sky above a valley.

There were already two old men standing separately over the valley as though they were blended in with the surrounding.

Chapter 951: The First Treasure

A grey-clad senior appeared along with ten youths consisting of both men and women. The two seniors above the valley reacted, and one of them looked at him and said faintly, "We thought you weren't coming, old fart"

"Hng, how can I miss it when both of you are present!" The greyclad senior responded. He then looked at the center of the valley where a profound grey light shield was blocking the situation inside from sight.

The grey-clad senior's turbid eyes lit up as he commanded, "Go in then!"

"Yes."

The ten youths flew out when he stopped talking, their bodies fell toward the grey light shield. Shortly after, seven men and two women passed through the grey light shield and vanished before the three seniors' eyes. Standing alone by the shield was a man who looked almost forty, he was naturally barred from entering. At the same time, the shield vibrated.

The grey-clad senior's face changed when he witnessed the scene before him. "You... You lied about your real age?!" The other seniors could not help but frown. That man did not even have time to react before a vortex appeared like a vacuum around him.

'Bang!' A loud 'Bang' sounded, and the man's body exploded without any warning. It rained blood, and he ceased to exist in this world.

"Trying to enter the Martial Emperor's secret treasure after forty... Naïve!" One of the senior officials sneered.

Over the vast plains, a purple lightning zoomed past as it headed northwest. Shou!

"It has been almost a month. Where's the end of this field? On the

field, Duan Ling Tian was hurrying along. He looked a bit lost and there was a frown on his face.

"At the speed I'm going, the amount of time spent is enough for me to return to Five Element Sect in the southern district of the northern desert, and yet I haven't even reached the real Martial Emperor's secret treasure." Duan Ling Tian smiled bitterly.

"How big is the Martial Emperor's secret treasure? Could it be larger than the northern desert?" Duan Ling Tian was frightened by that thought.

The Martial Emperor's secret treasure was an underground structure below the northern desert. If the area is larger than the northern desert, then it would be disastrous for the whole northern desert once it collapsed.

Three days later.

"There... Is that the end of the field?" Duan Ling Tian, who was gradually numbed by the traveling, instantly noticed a black fog at a distance ahead. The black fog isolated the field.

At that moment, the black fog brought Duan Ling Tian a sense of familiarity. He knew he had reached the end of the field. Once he entered the black fog, he would arrive at the real Martial Emperor's secret treasure. A whirlwind appeared when Duan Ling Tian increased his speed without any hesitation. He entered the black fog like a gust of wind. The surroundings darkened, but he kept flying. Soon after, a little bright spot appeared.

"The Martial Emperor's secret treasure!"

Duan Ling Tian knew that the little bright spot should be the real entrance to the Martial Emperor's secret treasure. All he had to do to arrive at the real Martial Emperor's secret treasure was to fly through it.

"Treasures in the Martial Emperor's secret treasure... Ordinary pills and spirit weapons are useless to me, and they don't hold any

temptation."

The little bright spot grew bigger before Duan Ling Tian's eyes. Duan Ling Tian thought to himself, 'Unless it's something special, I'm only interested in the Profundity Fragments.'

After he cleared his mind, he finally arrived at the real entrance of the Martial Emperor's secret treasure. It was a hole that only allowed for one person to pass. On the other side of the hole, it was as bright as daytime.

"Go in!"

Duan Ling Tian flew through the hole without any hesitation.

Almost at the same time, a message from the Martial Emperor who left the secret treasure behind entered Duan Ling Tian's ear. "Remember, this is your entrance and also your exit for the Martial Emperor's secret treasure."

"The Inscription Formation marked your aura when you flew through the hole. From now on, only you alone will be able to cross this entrance." After that, the message ended abruptly.

"I'm the only one who can pass through this entrance?"

Duan Ling Tian could not help but look back at the hole. The other side seemed to be shrouded in a greyish cloud, the color blended with the wall of the hole.

One would not be able to discover it without careful observation.

By going through the memories of Rebirth Martial Emperor, Duan Ling Tian quickly discovered the theory behind this Inscription Formation. It was sort of like a Spatial Ring after establishing ownership. It would not recognize a new owner unless the original owner died.

However, there was a minor difference in the Inscription Formation on the entrance. It would not allow another person to pass through even after the established owner's death. "This means... This entrance is the only entrance I'm able to leave from after gathering treasures from the Martial Emperor's secret treasure. Everyone has their personal passageway that they can exit from." Duan Ling Tian came to this realization shortly after.

He began to assess his surroundings. Before his eyes was an empty cave that seemed like it was carved out by someone.

Although it was an underground cave, it has sufficient lighting as if it was daylight.

"I think it's surrounded by an Inscription Formation that used Luminous Pearl as its material." Duan Ling Tian easily figured it out.

The cave was huge, it was almost as big as a standard football field on earth, and there were four exits headed in four different directions.

After searching around for some time, Duan Ling Tian did not manage to find anything. He simply picked an exit and flew out.

Soon, Duan Ling Tian realized that he had arrived at another cave. The only difference was one seemed like a hall and the other seemed like a room. The previous cave had four exits whereas this cave had a dozen different exits in different directions. "This place is like a maze!"

Duan Ling Tian shook his head and smiled bitterly. He casually picked another exit and flew out.

He did not stop flying along the way.

After an hour, Duan Ling Tian did not find any treasure, he did not even see a shadow or encounter any danger. "There's no offensive Inscription Formation at all?"

Duan Ling Tian was surprised.

As he dismissed the idea, he flew into a bigger cave.

This cave looked like an empty martial arts practice hall. Standing in it, Duan Ling Tian looked around and felt small.

"En?"

Suddenly, Duan Ling Tian looked up as if he had sensed something. At the top of the cave, right in the middle, an exquisite box was mounted on the wall. Only half of the box could be seen.

"Finally something."

Duan Ling Tian's eyes lit up. Although he was unsure of what was in the box, it was still the first treasure he encountered since he entered the Martial Emperor's secret treasure.

It was a good start. A whirlwind appeared when Duan Ling Tian rose up without any hesitation to collect that exquisite box.

However, just as he reached mid-air, his face fell as though he had sensed something. He ducked and hastily retreated as a purple lightning struck the place he was previously at.

Shou!

At that exact moment, a khaki lightning zapped across where Duan Ling Tian was at, and it set off a wind whistling sound. Eventually, the khaki lightning landed on the ground and disappeared. It left behind a small and bottomless hole that looked like it was pierced by a sharp arrow.

Duan Ling Tian took a deep breath as he broke out in cold sweat.

Fortunately, he had a quick reflex. Otherwise, it would have pierced his brain instead.

Rumble!

Rumble! Rumble! ...

Duan Ling Tian heard the loud noises, and there was a lingering fear in his heart.

Meanwhile, he felt the ground shaking. The cave shook as if an

earthquake was happening.

"Oh no!"

Duan Ling Tian let out his Spiritual Force, he instantly figured out the intense aura fluctuations from the surroundings were from the Inscription Formation being activated.

Duan Ling Tian's face changed after this realization.

Moments later, a vast khaki energy rose from the ground one after another. They slowly took the form of a khaki shadow. Soon, there were more than a hundred of puppets with khaki flames flashing in their eyes. All of them immediately looked at Duan Ling Tian and locked on to him.

"How extravagant!"

Duan Ling Tian pulled a face after seeing more than a hundred khaki puppets before him.

Through the memories of Rebirth Martial Emperor, he knew that there was an Earth Concept fragment within each puppet. That was one of their power sources. Needless to say, the other power source would be the Origin Energy. There were some Origin stones in the Inscription Formation that provided them with Origin energy. This meant that they could fight like an ordinary martial artist with both the Earth Concept and Origin Energy.

"These puppets are different from the earth puppets at the Sword Monarch's Treasure... The latter couldn't utilize the strength from their Earth Concept fragment whereas the former can fully utilize the strength of the Earth Concept fragment in their bodies!"

Duan Ling Tian solemnly observed the hundreds of puppets that surrounded him. He knew very well that what he was facing was equivalent to a group of Void Transformation martial artists.

As the saying went, 'When the snipe and the clam grapple, it's the fisherman who profits!' Duan Ling Tian failed to notice a shadow lurking in a corner of the cave.

Chapter 952: The Fisherman Who Profits

Boom!

The khaki puppets charged toward Duan Ling Tian as they stomped on the ground. They were moving as fast as the wind.

Milky white Origin Energy burst out from the puppets' bodies and merged with the Earth Concept that rose up. The combination turned it into a rumbling khaki energy that twined around the puppets' bodies and further increased their speed.

Wah!

At the same time, a hundred ancient horned dragons' silhouettes appeared in the space above a khaki puppet before another two hundred ancient horned dragons' silhouettes appeared moments later.

'Seventh Level Void Interpretation Origin Energy? First Level Advanced Earth Concept?' Duan Ling Tian felt relieved when he saw this. He was worried before the puppets displayed their strength. He would have been in deep trouble if the group of puppets contained Earth Concept Fragments above the seventh level.

When their khaki energies resonated with the ground in the area, the puppets charged at Duan Ling Tian. At that moment, they were connected with the energies.

Wah!

Above the void, three hundred ancient horned dragons' silhouettes slid to the side as another hundred ancient horned dragons' silhouettes appeared.

'This is unexpected! The puppets can even use Earth Realm with the aid of Earth energy... Apart from not having awareness and are unable to wield spirit weapons, they are not so different from a human martial artist." Duan Ling Tian was stunned. He smiled bitterly as four hundred ancient horned dragons' silhouettes dived toward him.

Shou! Although the puppet looked clumsy, its speed was totally unhindered as it raced toward Duan Ling Tian. The puppet swung its fist at Duan Ling Tian's head swiftly like a cannonball shooting out of a cannon.

The puppet's fist was entwined with vast amounts of khaki energy. Rumble! An earth-shattering explosion sounded, it was as though the air was compressed extremely tightly.

Boom! Boom! Boom! Boom! Boom!

...

A strength comparable to four hundred ancient horned dragons accompanied the sound of air explosion. It arrived almost instantly before Duan Ling Tian and was about to fall on him.

"Hng!" Duan Ling Tian who had been accumulating his strength since the beginning did not hesitate. He exerted all his Origin Energy and all four types of Concepts as he retaliated with a punch. It was comparable to the strength of eight hundred ancient horned dragons.

Bang!! Following the clash between the fist of Duan Ling Tian and the fist of the puppet, a huge bang sounded.

Duan Ling Tian stood at the same spot, he did not even move an inch.

On the other hand, the puppet's fist cracked. The cracks subsequently spread all over its body.

Shortly after, the puppet crumbled into a pile of rubble with a khaki fragment among it. It was extremely conspicuous.

"First Level Earth Concept Fragments!" Duan Ling Tian raised his hand, and he extended his Origin Energy out and entwined it around the fragment to bring it into the Spatial Ring.

Although the First Level Earth Concept Fragment was rather useless to him, it was still a Concept Fragment which made it rather valuable. Maybe it would be useful in the future.

'Wow! So strong!' The face of a blue-clad male young man, who was hiding in the corner of the cave, changed when he saw Duan Ling Tian made the puppet explode with just one punch.

"Taking all the puppet's energy into account, it had the strength of four hundred ancient horned dragons... But it exploded with just one punch in a direct battle! Is he a disciple of North Nether Sect? When did North Nether Sect have such a person?"

The blue-clad youth took a deep breath, there was a hint of anxiety and fear between his eyebrows as he made conjectures about the identity of the purple-clad young man.

'It seems that I can only wait for him to be surrounded by the remaining puppets before I can collect the box that contains the treasure... Otherwise, I'll definitely die if I'm discovered!' The blue-clad young man decided in his heart.

Duan Ling Tian was unaware of all of this.

After killing one of the puppets, Duan Ling Tian's attention fell on the rest of the puppets.

At the same time, the rest of the puppets also reacted.

Shou! Shou! Shou! Shou! Shou!

• • •

Duan Ling Tian was under immense stress as the group of puppets charged toward him from all directions with a speed that was as fast as the puppet that was punched by Duan Ling Tian moments ago.

Among these puppets, there were puppets who were even stronger than the puppet that Duan Ling Tian had punched.

Hua!Hua!Hua!Hua!Hua!

...

Accompanying the group of puppets that totaled to more than a hundred, several tens of thousands of ancient horned dragons' silhouettes headed toward Duan Ling Tian from all direction with their claws sharp and teeth bared in an imposing manner.

One by one, the khaki flames in the puppets' eyes flared. They were completely preoccupied and focused on Duan Ling Tian as though they were in a life-or-death battle.

Duan Ling Tian knew that destroying them completely was the best and direct way to handle these puppets that did not possess any awareness. It was the only way to resolve the current crisis.

Duan Ling Tian swiftly held a sword in his hands. The sword radiated a wave of destructive energy. It was the Quasi Royal Grade Spirit Sword that he previously obtained from the Sword Monarch's Treasure.

Although the strongest among the puppets that were charging toward him only had seven hundred ancient horned dragons including the help from Earth Energy, the main problem was that he was not merely facing one or two of them but hundreds of them instead.

Although the puppets' power could not be combined, if the attack overwhelmed him, and they managed to gain the upper hand, he would not even have enough lives to die.

What he had to do now was to break through the siege and destroy the puppets one by one. To fight them head-on would be as though he was looking for death!

Boom! Boom! Boom! Boom!

• • •

Hundreds of puppets leaped toward Duan Ling Tian as they punched simultaneously, it compressed the air together and unleashed a continuous sound of air explosion. Moreover, as the air explosion spread, the air flow was compressed and a flow of airwaves surged out and unleashed a gale that caused the cave to be filled with dust.

Nine Dragon's Radiant Flash!

Faced with the attacks from hundreds of puppets, a well prepared Duan Ling Tian set his sight straight as he flew out. With a swing of his Quasi Royal Grade Spirit Sword, a vast amount of power surged out.

Three realistic divine dragons came out roaring. There was a flash in all their eyes before they shot out six radiant flashes that destroyed six puppets.

Six of the puppets fell, and a gap appeared in the encirclement.

Whirlwind!

Duan Ling Tian seized this opportunity to break the encirclement by exerting his Movement Technique.

However, the group of puppets chased after him as he was leaving the encirclement. Although the puppets did not possess any awareness, it seemed that they currently viewed Duan Ling Tian as their mortal enemy.

It was as if they would not stop their actions until Duan Ling Tian was dead.

"Hng!" After Duan Ling Tian broke out of the encirclement, he coolly snorted as he faced hundreds of incoming puppets. Duan Ling Tian's silhouette moved like the wind and moments later he was seen flashing toward the puppets in the distance at the side.

Nine Dragon's Radiant Flash!

Sword Drawing Arts!

With every swing of the sword in Duan Ling Tian's hand, three divine dragons came rushing out with six radiant flashes. Alternately, it was as quick as lightning as it destroyed a puppet.

'I never would've guessed he's so strong... I can't wait anymore! If I continue waiting, he'll completely destroy the remaining puppets.'

The blue-clad young man, who was hiding in the corner, gritted his teeth and made up his mind.

When the blue-clad young man saw that Duan Ling Tian's attention was not on the top of the cave in the middle of the cavern, he took a deep breath and flew out as fast as lightning toward the top of the cave.

Duan Ling Tian was fully focused on crushing and destroying the group of puppets who was attacking him. Hence, he did not notice anyone appearing or heading toward the center at top of the cavern to retrieve the exquisite box.

That exquisite box contained a treasure that was left behind by the Martial Emperor.

The hundreds of puppets Duan Ling Tian was facing currently was a test for whoever that wanted to obtain the treasure.

Someone else wanted to sneakily retrieve the treasure when Duan Ling Tian faced the test.

Shou! Shou! Shou! Shou!

...

The sword in Duan Ling Tian's hand was like a lightning or a venomous snake, he managed to destroy one or several puppets with every swing of his sword. None of the puppets was able to survive his sword.

Boom! Boom! Boom! Boom!

• • •

One after another, the puppets without awareness continued to charge at Duan Ling Tian fearlessly even as their companions were being destroyed. They were literally trying to attack him until they died!

However, all of them who tried ended up being destroyed.

At the same time, the blue-clad young man's silhouette was fast approaching the top of the cavern in the center. With a hand as quick as lightning, he retrieved the exquisite box that was embedded on the top of the cave.

The blue-clad young man smiled brightly as he looked at the exquisite box in his hand.

'I got it!'

'If he finds out that the exquisite box was claimed by someone else after destroying all the puppets... My guess is he'll definitely be furious!' The blue-clad young man thought to himself as he glanced at Duan Ling Tian, feeling a little proud.

However, his eyes almost fell out of its sockets when he saw what was happening!

He saw the puppets that were charging at the purple-clad young man stopped altogether and turned their heads in his direction the moment he took the exquisite box from the top of the cave.

Khaki flames were rising in their eyes, and it seemed like they were expressing their anger.

'Run!'

When the blue-clad young man realized that the group of puppets was about to give up on attacking the purple-clad young and charged at him instead, his face changed, and he began to quickly retreat to the far end of the cave.

Shou! Shou! Shou! Shou!

• • •

In just an instant, the blue-clad young man made his move. The remaining khaki puppets stopped fighting Duan Ling Tian and went after him instead.

'What happened?' Duan Ling Tian found the actions of the group of puppets odd. He subconsciously turned his head and looked in the puppets' direction.

His face turned frosty with just a glance.

"Thinking of taking my stuff?" In the next moment, Duan Ling Tian's silhouette turned into a purple lightning, and it followed the group of puppets.

Chapter 953: Seventh Level Monarch Stage Earth Profundity Fragment

Shou! The blue-clad young man moved very quickly. As he fled, the four hundred ancient horned dragons' silhouettes plunged toward him from the space above. It was as fast as the wind.

A First Level Void Transformation martial artist who had comprehended the First Level Void Transformation Concept!

"Someone who entered from another entrance?" Duan Ling Tian's gaze turned cold, and he moved rapidly. He soon surpassed a bunch of khaki puppets and easily arrived behind the blue-clad young man.

Whirlwind!

He moved again, and he finally caught up to the blue-clad young man. He swung the Quasi Royal Grade Spirit Sword in his hand, and the sword whistled as a lightning flashed.

"Cough..." The blue-clad young man did not even have the time to react when a sword mark clearly appeared on his neck. When he coughed, the sword mark bloomed and blood sprayed out.

Boom! Boom! Boom!

•••

Following the sound, the blue-clad young man along with the box containing the treasure fell on the ground. His body was dragged a few dozen meters by the inertia.

At the same time, the exquisite box fell open with a 'Pa!' sound. A fragment with deep khaki energy appeared before Duan Ling Tian' eyes.

"Earth...Earth Profundity Fragment?!"

Duan Ling Tian, who had just caught up, could not help but

narrow his eyes. He waved his hand fiercely and used Origin Energy to move the fragment into his hands.

"Oh, no!" The moment the fragment landed in Duan Ling Tian's hands, his Spiritual Force sensed a familiar aura on the box. It was the aura of an Inscription Formation.

"Congratulations, young man... This Seventh Level Monarch Stage Earth Profundity Fragment is now yours." The voice of the Martial Emperor emitted from the exquisite box. With a frightening and penetrating ability, the voice managed to spread far and wide.

'A modified Polyphony Formation!' Duan Ling Tian frowned.

A normal Polyphony Formation could only transmit sound within a radius of a hundred meters. However, a modified Polyphony Formation had an extremely frightening and penetrating ability. In just a short time, It could transmit sound into everyone's ear within a radius of ten thousand meters.

'He definitely did it on purpose!' Duan Ling Tian was certain of it. As to the purpose, the Martial Emperor just wanted to make it harder for people to obtain the treasures.

Boom! Boom! Boom! Boom! Boom!

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Suddenly, several dozens of the remaining khaki puppets caught up and surrounded Duan Ling Tian. They punched Duan Ling Tian with Stone Fist

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"Hng!" Duan Ling Tian swung the Quasi Royal Grade Spirit Sword. He used Nine Dragons' Radiant Flash and Dragon Soaring The Nine Heavens, killing half of the puppets instantly.

'Kill!' All the remaining puppets died in Duan Ling Tian's hands. A strong killing intent could be seen in his eyes. When the puppets

fell on the ground, Duan Ling Tian raised his eyebrows as if he had sensed something.

Hu! Hu! Hu! Three figures pounced from three different directions and arrived before Duan Ling Tian in just a blink of an eye. They all stopped and revealed themselves.

There were three young men. They looked at each other before they shifted their gazes to Duan Ling Tian.

"Seventh Level Monarch Stage Earth Profundity Fragment!" Three pairs of eyes filled with intense greed focused on Duan Ling Tian.

They ignored the surrounding puppets that had been turned to stones, not to mention the corpse of the blue-clad young man that was buried among the stones.

The one with a rather stony face among the three of them calmly glanced at Duan Ling Tian and said coolly, "Hand over the Profundity Fragment in your hands... Or die!"

Although the other two men did not say anything, their eyes were still locked onto the fragment glinting with khaki energy in Duan Ling Tian's hand. They knew it was the Seventh Level Earth Profundity Fragment!

When the Martial Emperor's voice sounded earlier, they were the first ones to arrive.

'All of them didn't come in with me.' As Duan Ling Tian observed the three men surrounding him, he realized instantly that they did not come in with him from entrance No. 2.

"Which entrance did all you come in from?" Duan Ling Tian asked bluntly with a glint in his eyes.

"No.1!" The young man with a stony face said.

"Entrance No.1?" Duan Ling Tian saw the light and kept asking, "You are all from the northern desert too?"

Having heard what Duan Ling Tian said, the other man raised his eyebrows and questioned arrogantly and rudely, "You're from the northern desert?"

Nevertheless, Duan Ling Tian was not bothered by his tone. He managed to confirm their origins from what they said.

"All of you want this Profundity Fragment?" Duan Ling Tian asked calmly while he weighed the fragment in his hands.

"Of course!" The man who had questioned Duan Ling Tian cried bluntly.

"But there's three of you... Who should I give the Profundity Fragment to?" Duan Ling Tian glanced at them and asked curiously.

"No matter who it is for, you'll have to give it up first!" The young man with a stony face said with certainty.

"Then who should I give it to?" Duan Ling Tian asked again.

"Hand it over to me," the young man who questioned Duan Ling Tian said.

"I'm okay with that," the young man who had been keeping quiet all this while said.

He smiled as he told the young man with a stony face, "The minority should obey the majority,"

"Hng! Don't think I don't know that all of you are Izumo Sect's disciples... You've exposed yourselves by using the Izumo Movement Technique when you were rushing over," the young man with a stony face said with disdain.

The two men who previously echoed each other looked at him and quietly asked, "Does that mean you're from North Nether Sect?"

"You're right" He nodded without denying it.

"The people from North Nether Sect were absent when we,

Izumo Sect, came in with those from Anicca Sect... I really didn't expect that all of you would make it in time." The Izumo Sect's disciple, who was rude earlier, sneered.

'Izumo Sect! Anicca Sect! North Nether Sect!' Duan Ling Tian's eyes shrank when he heard their conversation. He had never heard of these sects before leaving Five Element Sect.

He managed to learn a lot regarding the northern desert after leaving Five Element Sect when they were traveling to the southwest entrance of the Martial Emperor's secret treasure. In the northern desert, the eastern, southern and western district were respectively dominated by several third-tier forces.

However, the central district and northern district of the northern desert were dominated by three powerful second-tier forces. All three had been inherited for thousands of years. The central district of the northern desert was under Izumo Sect, the northern district of the northern desert was ruled by North Nether Sect, and Anicca Sect controlled the border of the central and northern district.

'So they're disciples from Izumo Sect and North Nether Sect?' Duan Ling Tian took a deep breath. He thought to himself, 'That's why they're so strong... They're the young powerhouses from the second-tier forces.'

"Senior brother Xu, stop talking to him... We should just kill him and snatch the Profundity Fragment from that boy," one of the Izumo Sect's disciple suggested.

"Alright!" The eyes of the Izumo Sect's disciple, who was addressed as Senior brother Xu, brightened when he heard it. He immediately flew out and attacked the North Nether Sect's disciple with a stony face.

The other Izumo Sect's disciple followed closely.

Xiu!

Oin! Both of them, one with a sword and the other with a saber, fully exerted their abilities from the beginning. One from the left and the other one from the right, both of them attacked the stationary North Nether Sect's disciple who seemed like he was scared and shocked.

Hua! Hua! Both of them displayed their strength and had five hundred and fifty ancient horned dragons' silhouettes at the space above them.

Both were First Level Void Transformation martial artist. Their Origin energies, if fully exerted, were equivalent to two hundred ancient horned dragons' strength.

Both of them used Grade two spirit weapon that could boost almost seventy-eight percent of their Origin Energies' strength, amounting to more than a hundred and fifty ancient horned dragons' strength.

Moreover, they had comprehended First Level Void Transformation Concept. It amounted to two hundred ancient horned dragons' strength. In total, it was more than five hundred and fifty ancient horned dragons' strength!

'Come to think of it... The blue-clad fisherman who wanted to profit off me earlier could possibly be from Izumo Sect, North Nether Sect or Anicca Sect too?' Duan Ling Tian stood aside, he was temporarily ignored by the three of them. He could not help but think of the blue-clad young man he had killed earlier. He was also a First Level Void Transformation martial artist who had comprehended First Level Void Transformation Concept that did not enter from entrance no. 2.

Qiang! Qiang! Qiang! Qiang!

• • •

At that moment, the sound of weapon clashing and strong wind from the battle forced Duan Ling Tian to pay attention.

It could be seen that the North Nether Sect's disciple was not threatened by the two Izumo Sect's disciples' attacks at all. He easily blocked their attacks with a pair of iron fists.

Obviously, the North Nether Sect's disciple was not fighting with his bare hands. He was wearing a grade two spirit weapon glove and fought with ease against his opponent's Spirit Sword and Spirit Saber.

Duan Ling Tian remained unfazed by the scene.

Hua! In the space above the North Nether Sect's disciple, the number of ancient horned dragons' silhouettes increased again. It increased until there were more than eight hundred and thirty of them charging toward the two Izumo Sect's disciples with their claws sharp and fangs bared.

"He's a Second Level Void Transformation martial artist who has comprehended Second Level Void Transformation Concept... I wonder if he's the strongest among the young powerhouses in North Nether Sect," Duan Ling Tian muttered to himself. "If he isn't... How strong is their No.1 then?"

Chapter 954: Invincible

In the beginning, the North Nether Sect's disciple did not unleash his full energy and was merely making use of a strength that was equivalent to the two Izumo Sect's disciples to fight with them.

The moment the two Izumo Sect's disciples saw this, they quickly accelerated their attack speed.

When the two of them came nearer and nearer to the North Nether Sect's disciple, the North Nether Sect's disciple who had successfully lured them closer revealed a bone-piercing and chilling look on his already aloof face.

In just an instant, his full energy erupted, and the strength of over 830 ancient horned dragons charged out from his iron fist as it set off a series of wind howling and explosion sound. Like a falling meteor, it crushed down at one of the Izumo Sect's disciples.

His blow was as tyrannical as a mountain, and it was remarkably devastating!

Bam!

A loud bang reverberated, and the North Nether Sect's disciple blew the spirit saber in the Izumo Sect's disciple's hand with just one punch. The iron fist that traversed the sky seemed as if it had transformed into a giant hammer as it continued to slam down on the Izumo Sect's disciple's head.

Boom!

A loud sound echoed in the air. Similar to a watermelon, the Izumo Sect's disciple's head shattered open. A red and white substance immediately scattered all over the place as a headless body crashed down to the ground.

"Y-You actually concealed your strength?!" When the other Izumo Sect's disciple, who was holding a sword and had also been

speaking rudely all along, saw his junior brother from the same sect had his head blasted open with just a blow, horror immediately dawned on his face.

Without wasting another second, and without any hesitation, he quickly turned around and fled.

What a joke!

His entire power only amounted to the strength of 550 ancient horned dragons while his opponent had the strength of 830 ancient horned dragons. It was absolutely impossible for him to defeat the other party.

At this moment, all he wanted to do was flee, but he had not really thought about whether he would be able to flee or not with the strength that he possessed under the eyes of the North Nether Sect's disciple.

When the Izumo Sect's disciple had fled more than ten meters away, he was already caught by the North Nether Sect's disciple. Just as he turned pale in fright, his head was instantly smashed open with just one blow, following in the footsteps of his fellow junior brother.

The two Izumo Sect's disciples were butchered in just a blink of an eye. The North Nether Sect's disciple did not even bat an eyelash when he took away their Spatial Rings and shifted his attention toward Duan Ling Tian.

"Kid, you're very smart," the North Nether Sect's disciple with a cold demeanor looked at Duan Ling Tian as he casually remarked, "It's a good thing that you didn't flee. Otherwise, you would've died before the two of them did! However, it's time for you to join them now."

As he reached the end of his sentence, the gaze that the North Nether Sect's disciple used on Duan Ling Tian was filled with a cold killing intent. Intense killing intent could be felt emanating out of his body!

Duan Ling Tian narrowed his eyes as an unnoticeable sharp gleam flashed within them. Fascinated, he asked, "Will you still kill me if I hand this Profundity Fragment over to you?"

"Of course!" The North Nether Sect's disciple answered as a matter of fact, "If you live and spread the news of me possessing a Seventh Level Monarch Stage Earth Profundity Fragment, won't I instantly become the crowd's target? Only the dead will not speak indiscriminately!"

The moment the words left his mouth, the Heaven and Earth Phenomenon above the North Nether Sect's disciple whirled. The 830 silhouettes of ancient horned dragons began to solidify and were storing its energy so it could be launched at any time.

"Thank you for reminding me." Duan Ling Tian's narrowed eyes opened wide all of a sudden. A bright smile appeared on his face as he turned his attention to the North Nether Sect's disciple.

The moment the North Nether Sect's disciple saw the smile on Duan Ling Tian's face, chills ran down his spine at once. He asked in a deep voice, "What do you mean?"

"Only the dead will not speak indiscriminately!" Duan Ling Tian repeated the words that the North Nether Sect's disciple used earlier. Almost immediately after the words had left his mouth, he catapulted forward as his figure flashed across.

Whirlwind!

It was as though Duan Ling Tian had transformed into a hurricane as he swept toward the North Nether's Sect disciple in a domineering manner.

Khaki energy fluctuated in Duan Ling Tian's body. Coupled with streaks of purple lightning, they intertwined with the vast blue wind chi that spread all the way to the Quasi Royal Grade Spirit Sword in his hand.

The sounds of swords slashing echoed in the air. Another wave of tyrannical aura emanated out from the Quasi Royal Grade Spirit Sword as though it could tear everything asunder.

Duan Ling Tian unleashed his full attack without any reservation at all.

Whoosh!

While Duan Ling Tian pounded forward, the Quasi Royal Grade Spirit Sword in his hand shook for a moment. The Heaven and Earth Energy above his head whirled and gathered to form the Heaven and Earth Phenomenon.

The silhouettes of 1000 ancient horned dragons rushed out and bared their claws at the North Nether Sect's disciple.

The North Nether Sect's disciple's eyes glimmered, and in the next instant, that purple figure had already arrived not too far away from him. The 1000 silhouettes of ancient horned dragons elicited a shock that rose from the bottom of his heart.

"T-The strength of 1000 ancient horned dragons!" The North Nether Sect's disciple was completely bewildered.

It did not cross his mind that this purple-clad young man who looked as though he was only 25 years old actually possessed such a great strength.

It was obvious that the two Izumo Sect's disciples earlier had never met this purple-clad young man before.

Moreover, the Izumo Sect's disciples had said that they entered the secret treasure together with the Anicca Sect. If this purpleclad young man was a disciple of Anicca Sect, they would have at least recognize him even if they do not know him.

For this reason, he deduced that the purple-clad young man was not a disciple of Izumo Sect or Anicca Sect.

Since he was a disciple of North Nether Sect, he was certain that

this purple-clad young man before him was not North Nether Sect's people as well.

At this moment, the North Nether Sect's disciple was suddenly hit by a pang of realization. 'Previously, he had revealed from his words that he's also from the northern desert. In the northern desert, the strongest forces are the three second-rate forces. They're none other than our North Nether Sect, Izumo Sect, and Anicca Sect!'

'C-Could it be that he's actually from a third-rate force?' A sudden thought emerged without any warning in the North Nether Sect's disciple's mind. For a moment, a look of disbelief could be seen on his face.

Since when was there such a powerful young powerhouse in the third-rate force?

Whoosh!

The sword slashing sound echoed and immediately startled the North Nether Sect's disciple back to reality. He hastily launched a fist out to fight the swift sword ray that vanished as soon as it appeared.

"Interesting!" When Duan Ling Tian saw how the North Nether Sect's disciple dared to counter the sharp ray from his Quasi Royal Grade Spirit Sword, a chilling smirk crept up on the corner of his mouth. The sword that originally wanted to elude its opponent's punch vibrated for a moment.

Swish!

The sword ray from the Quasi Royal Grade Spirit Sword rose up sharply and greeted the iron fist thrown out by the North Nether Sect's disciple. Directly stabbing into it, the sword ray lashed out ruthlessly at the North Nether Sect's disciple's fist. It was as easy as breaking a dry branch off a tree.

"AHHHH!" Upon seeing this, the North Nether Sect's disciple

howled loudly, and the energy on his fist expanded out immediately. The strength of 830 over ancient horned dragons surged out as he unleashed all of his energy without any reservation.

Boom!!

A loud sound reverberated in the air. It was the clash between the power contained in Duan Ling Tian's sword ray and the North Nether Sect disciple's fist. For a second, the two of them were in a stalemate.

At this moment, a huge wave of turbulence surged out from the center where both of their energy collided like a ripple that expanded out to the surrounding.

Boom! Boom! Boom! Boom!

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A series of ear-piercing explosions echoed in the air. At the same time, a flurry of tyrannical hurricanes were set off as it began to blow in all directions, blowing clouds of dust all over the cave.

Crack! Crack! Crack! Crack!

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A crisp sound sounded immediately. It turned out that a series of gruesome cracks had started to appear on the floor beneath the North Nether Sect's disciple. The cracks continued to spread as though it had become a gigantic spider web.

On the contrary, there was no sign of cracks at all beneath Duan Ling Tian's feet.

From this, one could see that this collision had no effect on Duan Ling Tian at all.

Boom!

In the next moment, Duan Ling Tian pointed his sword and let his entire strength out. The strength of 1000 ancient horned dragons crushed down on the North Nether Sect's disciple's strength of 830 ancient horned dragons like crushing dead leaves. It dispersed the energy on his fist.

It was not over yet.

Snigger!

Duan Ling Tian sent the Quasi Royal Grade Spirit Sword out, and it completely penetrated the grade two spirit weapon glove on the North Nether Sect's disciple in just one blow. It was as easy as crushing dried leaves as it slammed against his arms. With a sudden shake, it minced the bones of his entire arms immediately.

"Hurmph!" A grunt that was filled with pain could be heard coming from the North Nether Sect's disciple.

In the next second, he was sent flying away before he slammed onto the ground in a sorry manner.

On the other hand, Duan Ling Tian stood there upright holding a sword in his hand as he chillingly looked at the North Nether Sect's disciple like an invincible warlord.

"You're quite a man of character!" A shocked look flashed across Duan Ling Tian's eyes. The slash from earlier had engulfed the North Nether Sect disciple's entire arm from his fist before it minced his bones, crippling his arm completely.

The pain that was felt during the process was even more painful than having one's arm directly cut off.

However, this North Nether Sect's disciple had only let out a grunt from the very beginning. Ever since he was sent flying, the speed that he took to recover his breath was so short that it was completely terrifying.

In the next second, the North Nether Sect's action was so disquieting that Duan Ling Tian could not help but narrow his eyes instantly.

Whoosh!

The North Nether Sect's disciple raised his left hand and formed a knife shape with his palm. As he unleashed his Origin Energy, he transformed it into a streak of white saber light before he aimed it at the crippled arm that could no longer be healed and cut it off without any hesitation.

"Humph!" The North Nether Sect's disciple grunted as he stopped the blood using his Origin Energy. In the meantime, he consumed a wound-curing medicinal pill. It was only then that his face that was awfully pale finally regained some colors.

"You can even be so ruthless to yourself. What a terrifying person!" The moment he saw this, the intense chills in Duan Ling Tian's eyes became even more apparent. Killing intent rose up from his heart to the point that it was hard to suppress.

One could easily imagine just how brutal he would be if he was so ruthless even to himself.

However, Duan Ling Tian could not help but feel a slight admiration for this North Nether Sect's disciple before him from the bottom of his heart.

However, his heart did not soften because of this at all.

As his opponent had said, "Only the dead will not speak indiscriminately!"

"What exactly is that sword in your hand? Even if it's a grade one spirit sword, it wouldn't have been able to destroy my glove!" The North Nether Sword's disciple took a deep breath as he glared at Duan Ling Tian with dread in his eyes.

"You have quite a good taste," Duan Ling Tian replied nonchalantly, "How can the sword in my hand be compared to a mere grade one spirit sword? Let alone your grade two spirit weapon gloves, I can even destroy a grade one spirit weapon if I want to!"

The Quasi Royal Grade Sword was not bound by the usual shackles of ordinary spirit weapons. Other than having a twofold boost, it also possessed an invincible powerful characteristic.

The most difficult part in refining the Quasi Royal Grade Spirit Sword did not lie in the method but in the materials instead.

Chapter 955: Peng Bao

Many of the materials needed to refine the Quasi Royal Grade Spirit Weapon were difficult to refine even with the Weapon Flame possessed by a grade one weapon craftsman.

It was precisely due to this reason that the Quasi Royal Grade Spirit Weapon possessed an ability that allowed it to destroy other ordinary spirit weapons, including the grade one spirit weapon.

Even a grade one spirit weapon could be destroyed as well?

Upon hearing Duan Ling Tian's words, the North Nether Sect's disciple could not help but narrow his eyes immediately. There was a look of surprise on his face as he asked in a deep voice, "Who are you actually?"

"A nobody," Duan Ling Tian replied indifferently. Meanwhile, the Quasi Royal Grade Spirit Sword in his hand was already lifted up, poised to kill the North Nether Sect's disciple anytime now.

"I'm a disciple of North Nether Sect. North Nether Sect won't let you go if you dare to kill me!!" The North Nether Sect disciple threatened in a low voice.

Faced with the looming murderous intent in the purple-clad young man's eyes, he did not escape. This was because he knew that he could not escape at all.

His opponent's strength far outweighed his own.

"There's no other third living person here. Do you think that anybody will know I killed you if you die here?" Upon hearing the North Nether Sect disciple's words, Duan Ling Tian could not suppress the laughter that boiled up from his chest as he cast a glance at him like he was looking at a fool.

Whoosh!

In the next second, before the opponent had the time to react,

Duan Ling Tian had already taken out his sword and killed him off.

After Duan Ling Tian killed this North Nether Sect's disciple, he retrieved his Spatial Ring before taking away the Earth Concept Fragments that he obtained from over a hundred puppets.

Duan Ling Tian stored hundreds of Earth Concept Fragments inside the Spatial Ring and transformed into a gust of wind before he disappeared into the cavern that was as huge as a gymnasium.

For a time, all that remained in the large cave were a few piles of stones and three ghastly bodies.

"Seventh Level Monarch Stage Earth Profundity Fragment... Not bad!" Duan Ling Tian flew forward in a fast speed while holding onto the Profundity Fragment that was gleaming with khaki aura in his hand as he muttered, "Coupled with the Third Level Monarch Stage Wind Profundity Fragment, Third Level Monarch Stage Thunder Profundity Fragment, and the Third Level Monarch Stage Sword Profundity Fragment, all of the Profundity Fragments that I need are all complete now. The pressing matter now is to find a piece of Profundity Fragment that I don't need so that I can give it to the sect." He put aside the Profundity Fragment that was gleaming with khaki chi. His eyes gleamed as he continued his search during his journey.

Along the way, he met with other young powerhouses from other forces as well.

Other than the young disciples from the other forces that entered from Entrance No. 2 with him, he also met with many unfamiliar faces. "These people must be the disciples from the second-rate forces who entered from Entrance No. 1."

Along the way, he witnessed many battles as well.

They were either battles to fight for grade two spirit weapons and grade one spirit weapon or battles for Concept Fragments that were at the Seventh Level and above. The situation on the

battlefield was horrifying. Every once in a while, there would be a few young powerhouses who died in the match.

However, Duan Ling Tian did not interfere at all.

He was not interested at all in the grade two or one spirit weapon.

As for the Concept Fragment, he was only missing one Ninth Level Earth Concept Fragment. However, he did not come across it during his journey. The rest of the treasure did not elicit any interest from him at all.

"Huh?" After passing through a vast cavern, Duan Ling Tian seemed to have sensed something as he suddenly came to a halt.

Whoosh!

Almost at the same time, he heard the sound of a saber slashing clearly.

The moment he heard it, he immediately shifted his glance toward it just in time to see a sturdy young man throwing out a spirit saber from his hand before killing another young man in just a stride.

After the sturdy young man had succeeded in his attack, he looked at two young men standing nearby, their faces had turned ghastly pale. He said with disdain, "Now, are the two of you still interested in the Ninth Level Earth Concept Fragment in my hand?"

Upon hearing this, the two young men exchanged glances with each other, and right away, they dismissed the idea of battling this sturdy young man.

"The Ninth Level Earth Concept Fragment?" Duan Ling Tian's eyes lit up immediately. Just a moment ago, he was still wondering to himself when he would come across a Ninth Level Earth Concept Fragment. It did not cross his mind that he would encounter one in just a blink of an eye.

Duan Ling Tian immediately extended his Spiritual Energy to probe the sturdy young man's cultivation base.

"T-Third Level Void Transformation?!" The instance Duan Ling Tian discovered the opponent's cultivation base, he instantly narrowed his eyes as a shocked expression appeared on his face.

The North Nether Sect's disciple earlier had a cultivation base at the Second Level Void Transformation. That was already more than enough to leave him in shock. Now, he had encountered another stronger person — a young man who was at the Third Level Void Transformation.

At the same time, Duan Ling Tian began to seriously observe this sturdy young man.

The sturdy young man was dressed wholly in green. He looked ordinary with thick brows and big eyes. Although he appeared disheveled, his big eyes shone with intelligence.

It was apparent that he was not as simple as he appeared to be.

"Third Level Void Transformation! Once he unleashes his full energy, it would be equivalent to the strength of 400 ancient horned dragons. The spirit saber in his hand is a grade two spirit saber. Although the boost it gives is not as much as the spirit weapon that I refined myself, it's still quite high. It gives at least a 78% power boost!" After Duan Ling Tian probed the opponent's cultivation base, he started to ponder over it. "Having a 78% boost from the strength of 400 ancient horned dragons is equivalent to the strength of over 310 ancient horned dragons. That's to say, he can demonstrate a strength of over 710 ancient horned dragons even without any Concept. If the Void Transformation Concept that he comprehends is at the second level or above, I'm no match for him in terms of strength."

The moment Duan Ling Tian thought of this, he gasped.

His full power plus the strength that the Quasi Royal Grade Spirit

Sword provided were equivalent to the strength of 1000 ancient horned dragons.

If the opponent comprehended the Second Level Void Transformation Concept, he would have a strength of 1010 ancient horned dragons if he unleashed his full energy.

If that was the case, Duan Ling Tian would not be afraid of him and would battle it out with him.

However, if the opponent had comprehended the Third Level Void Transformation Concept, or perhaps a higher level Void Transformation Concept, Duan Ling Tian would undoubtedly not be a match for him.

After all, it was not impossible for the opponent to comprehend a Third Level Void Transformation.

However, Duan Ling Tian was slightly reluctant to let go of the Ninth Level Earth Concept Fragment just like that.

"If any of you have a Ninth Level Saber Concept Fragment, I'm happy to exchange the Ninth Level Earth Concept Fragment that I just obtained with you. However, if you don't have any, scram now!" At this moment, the sturdy young man's voice once again entered Duan Ling Tian's ear. It caused his eyes to lit up instantly.

The Ninth Level Saber Concept Fragment?

He had exactly one on hand currently.

It was the fragment that he won from the bet he made with the Sect Leader of Sun Moon Sect before he entered the Martial Emperor's secret treasure.

Whoosh! Whoosh!

The two young men standing by the side were originally fidgeting, but the moment they heard the words that came out of the sturdy young man's mouth, they immediately heaved a sigh of relief. They did not dare to stay there any longer and quickly left

and disappeared into the cavern in just a blink of an eye.

For a time, the entire cavern became empty apart from Duan Ling Tian and the sturdy young man.

"What now? Are you trying to snatch the Ninth Level Earth Concept Fragment from me too?" The instance he noticed Duan Ling Tian, the sturdy young man said nonchalantly with his eyebrows raised, "Don't blame me for not reminding you of this. Sometimes, a wrong decision may cost you your life!"

The moment Duan Ling Tian heard the words that left the sturdy young man's mouth, he laughed in his sleeve.

This person did not seem like a bad-tempered person. Instead, he had a 'tit for tat' kind of attitude.

At the same time, Duan Ling Tian could finally breathe freely again.

Duan Ling Tian narrowed his eyes and asked bluntly, "You said earlier that I can use a Ninth Level Saber Concept Fragment to exchange for the Ninth Level Earth Concept Fragment in your hand?"

"That's right!" The sturdy young man nodded. In the next moment, as though he had thought of something, his eyes lit up instantly. "Brother... Are you trying to say that you have the Ninth Level Saber Concept Fragment in your hand?"

As he finished his sentence, the sturdy young man's eyes were burning with fire.

Whoosh!

Duan Ling Tian lifted his hand up and a fragment appeared in his palm — that was none other than the Ninth Level Saber Concept Fragment that he won from the Sect Leader of the Sun Moon Sect.

"The Ninth Level Saber Concept Fragment!" Upon seeing the fragment that Duan Ling Tian took out, an excited smile crept up

on the sturdy young man's face. At the same time, he took out a dark khaki fragment — the Ninth Level Earth Concept Fragment.

"Little brother, let's exchange!"

As though he was afraid that Duan Ling Tian would regret his decision, the sturdy young man raised a hand up and threw the Ninth Level Earth Concept Fragment at Duan Ling Tian. It seemed like he was not worried Duan Ling Tian would go back on his words after taking the fragment from him.

Duan Ling Tian did not expect this sturdy young man to be so straightforward. A sense of fondness immediately rose up in his heart. As he caught hold of the Ninth Level Earth Concept Fragment, he threw the Saber Concept Fragment he was holding to the opponent as well.

The sturdy young man reached out a hand to catch hold of it. As though he had received a treasure, he quickly stored it in his Spatial Ring before turning toward Duan Ling Tian with a grin. "I'm Peng Bao, the disciple of Anicca Sect. May I know your name please?"

The Anicca Sect was one of the three great second-rate forces in the northern desert.

Duan Ling Tian, who was fond of Peng Bao, responded with a smile. "Duan Ling Tian, a disciple of Five Element Sect."

"Five Element Sect?" Upon hearing this, a gleam flashed across Peng Bao's eyes as he asked in astonishment, "The Five Element Sect from the southern district of the northern desert?"

"Yes," Duan Ling Tian nodded.

"I've heard my master mentioned your Five Element Sect before. It's said that there was once a martial artist who was extremely talented and had the potential to become a Martial Monarch. It was unfortunate that he was injured twenty over years ago. Ever since then, he did not recover from the setback," Peng Bao said.

The moment he heard Peng Bao's words, Duan Ling Tian was stunned for a while. He immediately knew the person that Peng Bao referred to was none other than Qi Yu, the Peak Master of Wood Peak in Five Element Sect.

However, he did not think that Qi Yu's fame would be so widespread to the point that even somebody from a second-rate force in the northern desert would know about him.

"That's our Peak Master from Wood Peak in Five Element Sect." Duan Ling Tian smiled.

Peng Bao nodded before continuing, "Brother Ling Tian, I'm happy to have met you today. If there's a chance in the future, let's have a drink or two together one day! Another thing, this Martial Emperor's secret treasure is completely shrouded in danger. If you don't have full certainty, it's best not to take the initiative to snatch the treasure from the hands of others."

Chapter 956: Three Spirit Fruits

The moment he heard Peng Bao's reminder, Duan Ling Tian's heart was flooded with warmth.

The exchange between him and Peng Bao was only an equal exchange. For Peng Bao to be able to do this, it meant that he was quite a worthy friend.

"Okay." Duan Ling Tian smiled as he nodded.

"Then I'll go first. Be careful." Peng Bao nodded at Duan Ling Tian. After he bade Duan Ling Tian goodbye, he flew away in an instant.

After Peng Bao had left, Duan Ling Tian left as well.

However, the direction that he was headed in was different from the one Peng Bao took.

The cavern had seven exits, each leading to a different place. He merely chose a different one from Peng Bao.

This cave was just one of the thousands of caves inside the Martial Emperor's secret treasure.

Boom! Boom! Boom! Boom!

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Inside a cavern that was covered entirely in vegetation and was awfully humid, a series of energy clashing and explosions echoed inside in succession. It did not stop for a very long time.

Two figures were fighting with each other constantly, sometimes they clashed together and sometimes they separated. They seemed to be quite evenly matched in strength.

Nobody noticed when but a series of cracks had started to appear underneath their feet. The cracks interlocked with each other densely and spread out like a gigantic spider web. "Is there any meaning for us to continue like this? What about this? I'll give you one Seventh Level Concept Fragment, and you give me that second piece of spirit fruit. What do you think?" One of the figures could be heard saying as he leaped forward.

"Give it to me, and I'll give you an Eighth Level Concept Fragment," another figure said with disdain. At the same time, he rushed toward his opponent. As the power that was formed by the merging of his Origin Energy and Concept expanded vigorously, he charged toward his opponent in an overbearing manner.

"Hurmph! Then I guess we've nothing to discuss anymore!" The former snorted and pounced forward. Once again, he was locked in the battle with the latter.

The two of them continued to battle it out, and a series of explosion sound came from the place they clashed as it set off a flurry of hurricanes. It blew on a certain plant inside the humid cave so hard that it was on the verge of collapsing.

This plant was special. Unlike the other ordinary plants that were green in color, it was covered in three different colors instead.

The rhizomes that were slightly exposed were gold in color.

The branches were purple in color.

The leaves were red in color.

What was more important were the three different color spirit fruits hanging on top of the tree. It was gold, purple and red respectively.

If Duan Ling Tian was here and saw the tree, he would definitely be surprised.

A tree having three different colored spirit fruits was extremely peculiar.

Most importantly, the three spirit fruits were from different

types of spirit fruits.

In other words, a martial artist could consume these three spirit fruits at the same time so as to allow them to help raise their own cultivation base. Moreover, there would not be a decrease in the medicinal efficacy as well.

At this moment, these two young powerhouses were battling each other because they found these three spirit fruits at the same time.

The three spirit fruits had a rich intense color on the surface, and it was apparent that they had just ripened.

This was the best time to consume them indeed.

Clang! Clang! Clang! Clang!

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The figures of the two young men continued to interlock with each other. The spirit weapons in their hands kept clashing with each other once in a while as it set off a deafening and harsh sound that was truly appalling.

On top of their heads were the silhouettes of over 550 ancient horned dragons each.

Both of them were First Level Void Transformation martial artists who had comprehended First Level Void Transformation Concept. The spirit weapons in their hands were both grade two spirit weapons that possessed 78% boost.

The reason the two of them were locked in a battle was none other than the three spirit fruits.

If it were only two spirit fruits, after knowing that their strength was evenly matched, they would have long called a truce with each taking one spirit fruit, and everyone would be happy.

However, the problem was that there was a total of three spirit fruits.

At this moment, they were trying to use their strength to determine the ownership of the spirit fruits. The defeated party had to die while the winner would get all three spirit fruits.

The thing was they had yet to figure out who the winner was even though they had been battling for a long time.

One of the young men flew backward and said in a deep voice, "I don't think we should continue on like this. If another person comes to take a share of the fruits, it'll just be a lose-lose situation for the both of us!"

"Yes! However, I must obtain two out of the three spirit fruits here!" The other young man nodded his head in agreement, but he voiced out a condition that was unacceptable to the other party.

"Hurmph! Since you're so greedy, I'll continue." The former's face sank. After he snorted angrily, he continued to battle it out with the other party.

Time continued to go on quietly.

"Huh?" Outside of the cavern, a white figure flew in and came to a halt at one of the entrances of the cavern. His attention landed on the two people locked in a battle inside the cavern.

"I think the reason they're fighting must be because of some loots!" The owner of the white figure — a white-clad young man — muttered to himself as he watched the two people locked in a battle.

"Zi Shang boy, you're in luck!" At this moment, in the depth of the white-clad young man's mind, a gloomy, hoarse, and ancient voice sounded without warning. It momentarily stunned the white-clad young man.

The white-clad young man was none other than Zi Shang who had fallen from one of the edges of the high platform below the entrance of the Martial Emperor's secret treasure previously. He was supposed to have fallen to his death in the bottomless abyss,

but he was still alive and well.

Apart from that, he had also entered the real Martial Emperor's secret treasure.

"Elder Ghost, what did you notice?" Upon hearing Elder Ghost's voice in his mind, Zi Shang's eyes lit up at once.

"Look inside the cave yourself. That three-colored tree over there! Do you see it?" Ghost Flame's voice resonated in Zi Shang's mind.

Upon hearing this, Zi Shang immediately shifted his attention to the inside of the cavern. With just a glance, he could see that particularly conspicuous three-colored tree that had three different colored fruits hanging on top of it.

"Spirit fruits?!" A light flashed across Zi Shang's eyes as his breathing immediately quickened.

"Although I don't know what type of spirit fruits those are, my Soul Energy can sense that they're not ordinary spirit fruits. Moreover, the medicinal efficacy of these fruits is between the spirit fruits that are exclusive to Void Interpretation and Void Transformation," Ghost Flame's voice continued to resonate in Zi Shang's mind.

"What do you mean?" Upon hearing Ghost Flame's words, confusion was written on Zi Shang's face.

"What I mean is, be it a Void Interpretation martial artist or a Void Transformation martial artist, the three spirit fruits can be consumed by them too! If it's a Void Interpretation martial artist who consumes it, the effect would be even greater!" Ghost Fire explained.

"A spirit fruit that can be consumed by both Void Interpretation and Void Transformation martial artists?" Zi Shang's eyes brightened instantly. His breathing that was originally rapid accelerated even more. He could not calm down for a long time.

A spirit fruit that could be consumed by a Void Transformation martial artist would naturally have a stronger medicinal efficacy.

He was a martial artist who was only at the Seventh Level Void Interpretation. If he consumed these three spirit fruits, would his strength not advance by leaps and bounds?

The two Concepts that he comprehended had already entered the Void Transformation. Due to this reason, he did not need to worry that his cultivation base would not be able to enter the Void Transformation after he had made a rapid breakthrough to the Ninth Level Void Interpretation.

"These three spirit fruits belong to me, Zi Shang!" A gleam flashed in Zi Shang's eyes. He looked at the two people who were still locked in a battle with disdain as he flew into the cavern. He did not even bother to hide in front of these two people.

"Who's that?!" The moment Zi Shang made his appearance, he was immediately discovered by the two young men who were locked in a battle. All of a sudden, the two of them came to a halt and stared fixedly at Zi Shang simultaneously.

"I, Zi Shang, will be taking those three spirit fruits..." Zi Shang cast a glance at the two young men as he announced nonchalantly. The moment he reached this part of the sentence, he paused, but his tone indicated that there was no room left for discussion.

Upon hearing his words, the two young men's face darkened right away. They bellowed angrily, "You wish!"

At this time, Zi Shang who paused for a while had a sharp gleam in his eyes. He continued in a chilling tone, "As for the two of you, don't even think of living anymore!"

Don't even think of living anymore!

One had to admit that Zi Shang's words were absolutely dictatorial, and it had completely angered the two young men as well.

"How dare you!" One of the young men had murderous intent shooting out of his eyes. His voice was so chilling that it was as though it came directly from a thaw hole.

Taking a deep breath, the other young man asked the former, "The person who kills this lad gets two spirit fruits. What do you think?"

"Deal!" The former did not refuse and nodded his head fiercely instead.

The gazes of that the two young men as they stared at Zi Shang had a noticeable hint of ruthlessness as if they were about to devour a certain somebody.

"KILL!"

The next moment, with tacit understanding, the two charged out at the same time toward Zi Shang.

The Origin Energy and Concept on their bodies merged together and transformed into a vast and undulating energy. Coupled with the spirit weapons in their hands, they pounced toward Zi Shang mercilessly.

The Heaven and Earth Energy above their heads whirled turbulently and finally gathered to become the silhouettes of over 550 ancient horned dragons each.

A total of more than 1100 ancient horned dragons bared their claws and fangs as they charged at Zi Shang.

"What a futile effort!" Faced with these two First Level Void Transformation martial artists, Zi Shang who was at the Seventh Level Void Interpretation did not seem to be afraid at all. A disdainful smirk crept up on the corner of his mouth as a seven-foot-long spear appeared in his hand out of thin air.

When Zi Shang saw the two young men charging at him without any reservation, a cold gleam flashed across Zi Shang's eyes. As the long spear in his hand trembled, it suddenly blasted out in an overbearing manner.

Whoosh!

The long spear pointed out as flames twined around it like a fiery dragon that was constantly writhing around the spear. Very soon, a gust of blue wind chi appeared beside the fiery dragon and pierced it.

Swish!

In an instant, the fiery dragon soared up right away as the Wind Concept fueled the Fire Concept.

At the same time, the silhouettes of 878 ancient horned dragons at the top of Zi Shang's head swept out as the seven-foot-long spear in his hand blasted out like a lightning.

When all of his Origin Energy of the Seventh Level Void Interpretation was unleashed, it was equivalent to the strength of 100 ancient horned dragons. With the boost of the grade two spirit spear, it could be raised up to the strength of 178 ancient horned dragons.

With the the Fourth Level Advance Wind Concept that was equivalent to the strength of 400 ancient horned dragons, the First Level Advance Fire Concept that was equivalent to the strength of 200 ancient horned dragons, and the strength of 100 ancient horned dragons that was obtained from the fueling of Fire Concept with Wind Concept, Zi Shang now possessed the strength of 878 ancient horned dragons when he unleashed his full power.

"SHIT!" Upon seeing the 878 silhouettes of ancient horned dragons in the sky, horror immediately dawned on the two men who were charging at Duan Ling Tian.

Chapter 957: Another Exquisite Box

Unfortunately, it was already too late when the two young men came to their senses.

It did not cross their minds that this white-clad young man who appeared to be younger than the two of them would actually possess such a great strength that it could completely crush them.

Swoosh! Swoosh!

The seven-foot-long spear trembled in Zi Shang's hand. Two shots of spear rays blasted out swiftly like two dragons of wind and fire that charged out together and easily butchered the two overconfident young men.

He managed to kill two First Level Void Transformation martial artists with just a blow.

If a third person was present on the scene, he would definitely be shocked and stunned after seeing such a performance by a Seventh Level Void Interpretation martial artist.

It was because this was something that was basically impossible in the eyes of ordinary people.

A Seventh Level Void Interpretation martial artist killing two First Level Void Transformation martial artists in just one blow. No matter who heard of this, they would think that it was merely a bedtime story or a huge joke.

"Two trashes!" Zi Shang put the seven-foot-long spear back into his Spatial Ring as he swept a disdainful look at the two young men's bodies. "So much for being a Void Transformation martial artist!

At this moment, Zi Shang had completely forgotten that not too long ago, he was forced to abandon the Devilseal Tablet fragment by a Void Transformation martial artist and fled to the bottomless abyss in order to retain his life. Otherwise, he would have long

become a dead body by now.

"All these three spirit fruits belong to me now!" Zi Shang went up to the tricolor tree that was situated at the innermost of the humid cavern, and he raised his hand to pluck the three different colored spirit fruits. He carefully studied them as he held them in his hands.

In the meantime, Ghost Flame's voice reverberated in Zi Shang's mind, "Based on my judgment, any one of these three spirit fruits would be enough to help you enter the First Level Void Transformation from the Seventh Level Void Interpretation in one fell swoop!"

"The medicinal efficacy is THAT strong?!" The moment Zi Shang heard Ghost Flame's words, he could not suppress his shock.

After all, he was only at the Seventh Level Void Interpretation currently, it was three levels away from the First Level Void Transformation.

Just one spirit fruit, and it would be enough to help him break through three levels in a row?

At that moment, Zi Shang's breathing quickened again.

"Of course, even if it's a Void Transformation martial artist who consumes any one of these three spirit fruits, as long as he doesn't have a cultivation base higher than the Fourth Level Void Transformation, he would be able to raise his cultivation base more than one level with this fruit," Ghost Flame explained as a matter of fact.

"Alright, alright! Let alone these three spirit fruits, even if I only consume one of them, my strength will surpass Duan Ling Tian's when I make a breakthrough to the First Level Void Transformation!" Zi Shang's eyes gleamed brilliantly as he gritted his teeth. "Duan Ling Tian, I'll definitely kill you and snatch that Devilseal Tablet from you! At that time, I, Zi Shang, will stand on

top of the world, and you're destined to be stepped on by me!"

"Let's not rush the matter of you seeking revenge from Duan Ling Tian first. You should first find a secluded place to consume the spirit fruit and cultivate. Raising your cultivation base to the First Level Void Transformation should be your priority right now," Ghost Flame interjected.

"Yes." Zi Shang nodded and agreed with Ghost Flame's words. At the same time, he started to look around for a remote cavern so he could consume the newly obtained spirit fruits and cultivate to raise his cultivation base.

There was no doubt Duan Ling Tian had no clue of what was happening right here.

Let alone the fact that Zi Shang had just obtained three spirit fruit that could be considered as treasures and could surpass his strength at any time, Duan Ling Tian did not even have the slightest idea that Zi Shang was alive and kicking after supposedly falling to his death in the bottomless abyss.

At this moment, Duan Ling Tian was moving through the caves one by one, in an attempt to check out the directions so that he could determine the exact location of the palace in the Martial Emperor's secret treasure.

From the message left behind by the Martial Emperor, the palace that he died in was in the center of the Martial Emperor's secret treasure.

"Emperor Stage Profundity Fragment!" Duan Ling Tian's goal was none other than the Emperor Stage Profundity Fragment and the two Monarch Stage Profundity Fragments in the remains of the Martial Emperor.

Other than the three Profundity Fragments, there were another five Profundity Fragments in the entire Martial Emperor's secret treasure. At this moment, he had already obtained one of the Seventh Level Monarch Stage Profundity Fragment. Wanting to find another four of the fragments was like trying to look for a needle in a haystack.

In Duan Ling Tian's opinion, he could already be considered lucky for being able to obtain one when it was so difficult to even find one.

"I can't believe I didn't encounter any living Five Element Sect's disciple yet," As Duan Ling Tian flew out, his face darkened slightly.

Although he had encountered several Five Element Sect's disciples along the journey, all of them were corpses that had been killed quite some time ago. Due to this reason, he could not avenge them even if he wanted to as he did not know who the culprit was.

Inside a very spacious cavern, two swift figures flew and suddenly came to a halt without any warning.

Around them were countless piles of stone gravels. Among the stone gravels were many red fragments. Those were Fire Concept Fragments, and there were roughly hundreds of them.

Although the Fire Concept Fragments were scattered everywhere on the floor, both of them did not collect them.

Their gaze unanimously rested on the exquisite box placed at the top and middle of the cave.

Half of the exquisite box was embedded in the top of the cavern, and it was apparent it contained the treasure that the Martial Emperor left behind.

The two young men quickly shifted their attention away from the exquisite box.

One of the young men looked at the other young man as he exclaimed in a deep voice, "Liu Qi, I didn't expect that your strength would improve so much... Looks like this time, your

Anicca Sect is well prepared. What a wild ambition you all have."

"Isn't it the same with your Izumo Sect?" The Anicca Sect's disciple whose name was Liu Qi snorted as his eyes gleamed brilliantly. "Xiao Ping, when we battled previously during the Tri-Sect Martial Competition, I was defeated by you. However, today, not only will I settle our old scores, I'll kill you and take that treasure for my own!"

"Then we shall see if you're capable of that or not," Xiao Ping replied indifferently.

At the split second when Xiao Ping's words left his mouth, Liu Qi began to make his move. He chose to beat Xiao Ping to the punch, and he charged straight at Xiao Ping.

A flexible sword that was as thin as a cicada's wings appeared out of thin air in his hand.

Swoosh!

The flexible sword that was covered in extreme chilliness sliced out and set off a series of wind howling sound. The instance it was drawn out, it was immediately pointed at Xiao Ping's vital part — right between his eyes.

Whoosh!

The Heaven and Earth Energy whirled above Liu Qi's head as the Heaven and Earth Phenomenon solidified into form.

Silhouettes of ancient horned dragons formed above Liu Qi immediately.

It was a total of over 830 ancient horned dragons.

Liu Qi had a cultivation base at the Second Level Void Transformation. When he unleashed his full Origin Energy, it was equivalent to the strength of 300 ancient horned dragons.

Through the 78% boost given by the grade two spirit weapon, it could be raised up to the strength of over 230 ancient horned

dragons.

Apart from that, Liu Qi had also comprehended the Second Level Advance Sword Concept that was equivalent to the strength of 300 ancient horned dragons.

Due to this reason, when he unleashed all of his energy, it was equivalent to the strength of over 830 ancient horned dragons!

The place where the sword, that contained the strength of over 830 ancient horned dragons, sliced through set off a sword slicing sound, and the turbulence in air set of an explosion.

Whoosh!

The sword was directed between Xiao Ping's eyes, he intended to kill him in just one blow.

Xiao Ping's face darkened slightly when he saw the strength that Liu Qi demonstrated when he struck the first blow to gain the initiative. However, he strode out to intercept the blow without any fear in his eyes.

Swish!

A narrow knife that was also as thin as a cicada's wings appeared in his hand. A streak of knife ray blasted out and exuded a tyrannical aura as it welcomed Liu Qi's sword.

Swoosh!

The Heaven and Earth Energy whirled in the sky as the Heaven and Earth Phenomenon solidified into form and transformed into silhouettes of ancient horned dragons.

In just a blink of an eye, the number of ancient horned dragons increased to over 800 silhouettes.

"Kill!" Faced with Xiao Ping who was charging at him, Liu Qi's eyes were brimming with coldness. The flexible sword's ray in his hand wreaked havoc and took on Xiao Ping's incoming narrow saber as though he was trying to compete with Xiao Ping head-on.

However, the confidence on his face quickly froze.

He could clearly see that the silhouettes of ancient horned dragons above Xiao Ping's head had risen up to over 930 in just a blink of an eye. It was 100 silhouettes more than his own.

"NO!!" The moment Liu Qi saw this, horror dawned on his face instantly.

It did not cross his mind that Xiao Ping would hide his true strength from the very beginning.

It turned out that Xiao Ping, whose cultivation base was equal to his and also had the same grade two spirit weapon as him, had already comprehended the Third Level Saber Concept. It completely suppressed his Second Level Sword Concept!

Clang!

The ear-piercing sound of iron weapons clashing with each other reverberated in the air.

Bam!

At the same time, two forces clashed together as a loud bang resonated in the air. It set off waves of air that spread out to the surroundings and burst into a flurry of hurricanes.

Crack! Crack! Crack! Crack!

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The floor shattered beneath Liu Qi's feet. Numerous ferocious cracks appeared and spread out in all directions like a huge spider web.

Wham!

Almost at the same time, Liu Qi's sword ray was crushed by Xiao Ping's saber ray.

In the next instance, Liu Qi was completely engulfed by Xiao Ping's saber ray before he was completely cleaved into two halves.

The remnant of Liu Qi's bodies dropped down to the floor while his blood dyed the entire ground and formed a little river that was flowing slowly. It was incredibly offensive to the eyes.

Liu Qi, the Anicca Sect's disciple who entered the Martial Emperor's secret treasure, had a strength that ranked in the top 5 among the ten young Anicca Sect's disciples who entered this time and yet, he still died in the hands of Xiao Ping, an Izumo Sect's disciple.

"You, Liu Qi, are still too young to battle with me, Xiao Ping." Xiao Ping snorted and took two strides forward before crouching down to take the Spatial Ring from Liu Qi.

However, before he could reach his hand out, his body turned stiff immediately.

Whoosh!

Without any hesitation, Xiao Ping turned around hastily and looked at the young man who had appeared from behind without him noticing. His face darkened, and he asked, "Who are you?"

The young man ignored Xiao Ping and shifted his attention to the exquisite box embedded at the top center of the cavern that was shining brilliantly with a fiery luster.

"Leave, I don't want to kill you!" Finally, the young man looked at Xiao Ping and spoke in a cold voice. From the very beginning, his face remained cold and aloof.

"Who the hell are you?" Xiao Ping asked again.

The young man who wore an aloof expression answered in a horrifyingly calm tone, "Zhang Yan from the Emotion Severing Sect."

Chapter 958: The Ninth Level Monarch Stage Fire Concept Fragment

"Emotion Severing Sect?" The moment Xiao Ping heard Zhang Yan's words, Xiao Ping was immediately stunned. After he mulled it over, he asked, "The Emotion Severing Sect is a third-rate force from the southern district of the northern desert right?"

Zhang Yan's face remained cold and aloof, he did not bother answering Xiao Ping at all.

However, Xiao Ping had already figured out the answer on his own. He smiled mockingly at Zhang Yan when he looked at him again. "A third-rate force disciple like you dare to actually brag in front of me, Xiao Ping? What a joke! Do you even know who I, Xiao Ping, am?"

Zhang Yan still remained quiet.

"Let me tell you, I, Xiao Ping, am the disciple of Izumo Sect, one of the three great second-rate forces in the northern desert! A third-rate force disciple like you, who is as feeble as an ant, actually dare to be arrogant in front of me, Xiao Ping?" When he reached here, a cold light shone brightly from his eyes as he continued to say coldly, "You WILL die today!"

The instance Xiao Ping finished his words, he did not continue to speak anymore. With a swift move, he pounced on Zhang Yan. The narrow saber in his hand charged out and bit at Zhang Yan's vital part as though it had transformed into a snake.

Whoosh!

The Heaven and Earth Energy in the air whirled as the Heaven and Earth Phenomenon reappeared once again.

The silhouettes of over 930 ancient horned dragons reappeared again above Xiao Ping before they bared their claws and fangs at Zhang Yan in an imposing manner.

Xiao Ping, the Izumo Sect's disciple, was ranked in the top three among the ten Izumo Sect's young disciples who had entered the Martial Emperor's secret treasure this time.

It was due to this reason that Xiao Ping had great faith in his own strength.

In his opinion, a disciple of a mere third-rate force was as feeble as an ant in front of him. He would need only one blow to completely wipe him off this world.

Faced with a raging Xiao Ping, Zhang Yan's face remained unperturbed. However, his gaze had turned completely cold as he reached both of his hands out in a flash.

In just an instant, a spirit weapon glove that was refined from God-knew-what materials appeared on both of Zhang Yan's hands. The moment the gloves emerged, a chilling aura immediately exuded out from it.

"Ice Concept?!" Xiao Ping's gaze froze, and astonishment could be seen on his face when he noticed the chilling aura that was exuding out of Zhang Yan's hands.

Ice Concept could be considered as the Nature Concept that was the most powerful. Unless one was blessed with extraordinary talents and opportunities, it was almost impossible for a person to comprehend it.

However, the moment he saw the 200 silhouettes of ancient horned dragons that appeared on top of Zhang Yan's head, a smirk crept up on Xiao Ping's face immediately. "Ahh, so you're only at the First Level Advance Ice Concept!"

From what he could see, the First Level Advance Ice Concept was basically not a threat to him.

However, in just a short while, colors drained from his face immediately.

This was because as Zhang Yan's hand emitted waves of chilling

aura, his Origin Energy soared up and transformed into a raging fire that merged perfectly with the chilling aura.

In just an instant, a blue flame emerged from Zhang Yan's hands, emitting tides of hot and cold waves. The contradicting combinations brought a sense of invisible pressure on others.

Whoosh!

At the same time, another 300 silhouettes of ancient horned dragons appeared beside the 200 silhouettes of ancient horned dragons on top of Zhang Yan's head.

Among them, the 200 silhouettes of ancient horned dragons came from the First Level Advance Fire Concept.

The Fire Concept was born out of the Ice Concept.

This was one of the ingenious technique from the ultimate cultivation method 'Supreme Emotion Forsaking Technique' that Zhang Yan cultivated.

As for the other 100 silhouettes of ancient horned dragons, it was drawn from Zhang Yan's cultivation base at the Seventh Level Void Interpretation.

Almost at the same time, another 78 silhouettes of ancient horned dragons appeared. It was the boost that was given by the grade two spirit weapon glove on Zhang Yan's hands.

There was a total of 578 silhouettes of ancient horned dragons.

However, it did not end there.

"The Union of Ice and Flame!" As Zhang Yan's glacial voice left his mouth, the blue ice flame that formed from the combination of ice and fire on his hands suddenly soared up and burst into a wave of bloodcurdling aura.

In an instant, another 400 silhouettes of ancient horned dragons appeared next to the 578 silhouettes of ancient horned dragons above Zhang Yan's head.

It was a total of 978 silhouettes of ancient horned dragons!

If Pei An, the Sect Leader of Emotion Severing Sect, saw this, he would definitely turn pale from shock.

This was because this meant that his direct disciple, Zhang Yan, had already mastered the Mastery Stage of the Union of Ice and Flame. It could raise the power given by the ice-fire combination up to twofold.

The Union of Ice and Flame was a technique from the Supreme Emotion Forsaking Technique. The Initial Stage allowed the combined force of the ice and flame to be raised by 50% while the Mastery Stage could raise up to 100%.

At this moment, Zhang Yan indeed had mastered the Mastery Stage of the Union of Ice and Flame!

"H-How's this possible?!" Colors drained from Xiao Ping's face as he witnessed this implausible scene.

This silhouettes of 978 ancient horned dragons above the Emotion Severing Sect's disciple had far exceeded the over 930 silhouettes of ancient horned dragons that he had when he exerted his full power.

At the same time, the narrow saber that Xiao Ping slashed at Zhang Yan began to show signs of slowing down because of the agitation that rose up in his heart.

At this moment, a figure that was burning with a majestic blue ice flame suddenly pounced forward. In just a blink of an eye, he arrived before Xiao Ping. Xiao Ping's face became ashen immediately.

Whoosh!

Xiao Ping dared not waste a second any longer. The force of the narrow saber in his hand multiplied as he slashed it directly at Zhang Yan as though wanting to cut him into two halves.

"Hurmph!" A snort could be heard from Zhang Yan instantly. In the next moment, Zhang Yan's hand slapped down like a leaf fan at a swift speed and pinned the narrow saber down on Xiao Ping's hand.

Slap!

A smack sounded and slapped the narrow saber in Xiao Ping's hand off its original trajectory. From the very beginning until now, Zhang Yan's hand was still holding the narrow saber.

In an instant, the narrow saber was covered in a layer of frost. The frost swept out and covered Xiao Ping's body. It caused him, who originally wanted to flee, to come to a halt right away.

Swish!

At this moment, Zhang Yan's other hand that was intertwined with blue ice flame struck as swift as a lightning. Like a leaf fan, it came down at Xiao Ping's head.

"NOOO!" Horror dawned on Xiao Ping's face immediately when he saw Zhang Yan's palm, that was intertwined with blue ice flame that contained the strength of 978 ancient horned dragons, striking at his head.

He wanted to switch to a defensive posture, but he realized that his body had become slow due to the frost emitted from Zhang Yan's palm. Due to this reason, it was too late for him to defend against the attack.

SMACK!

Zhang Yan's palm landed on Xiao Ping's head. Similar to slapping a watermelon, his head was cracked open instantly. The red and white substance that splashed out was completely covered by a layer of cold ice, and it prevented the substance from splashing on Zhang Yan.

Xiao Ping's body fell to the ground and fanned up a layer of dust. The narrow saber in his hand fell on to the ground as well with a loud 'Clang!'

With a raise of his brow, Zhang Yan casually took Xiao Ping's Spatial Ring and grade two spirit saber before storing them in his own Spatial Ring.

He then proceeded to take away the Spatial Ring and grade two spirit sword from Liu Qi, who had been dead for quite some time and the Fire Concept Fragments that were scattered all over the floor.

There were hundreds of Fire Concept Fragments in total. After storing each and every one of them away, a rare faint smile crept up on the corner of Zhang Yan's mouth.

"My reapings are good today." Zhang Yan raised his brows, a hint of joy could be seen in his eyes.

This time, he could be considered as the fisherman who profited when the snipe and the clam grappled.

Very soon, Zhang Yan's gaze fell on the exquisite box at the top of the cavern's center. Without wasting any time, he flew out and took the box down.

"I wonder what's contained inside." Curious, Zhang Yan raised a hand and opened the exquisite box.

In the next moment, a fragment that was gleaming with an intense fiery red chi appeared before his eyes, it caused his eyes to lit up instantly, and his breathing quickened.

"This is not a Concept Fragment! Don't tell me this is a Profundity Fragment? Or maybe a Fire Profundity Fragment?" Zhang Yan gasped.

Almost at the same time, a familiar yet foreign voice rang out from the box and entered his ears. It carried a terrifying and penetrating power that spread out in all directions.

"Congratulations, young man. This Ninth Level Monarch Stage

Fire Profundity Fragment is yours now." Very soon, Zhang Yan was hit by a realization. He recognized that this was the voice of the Martial Emperor who left behind the secret treasure.

"This box actually contains the Polyphony Formation, but the voice just now seemed to have a strong penetration power. I think it must have spread to the surrounding area right?" The moment he thought of this, Zhang Yan's eyes narrowed instantly.

Just as he returned to his senses, he immediately heard three streaks of swift wind whistling that entered the cavern that he was in.

In the next instance, three figures appeared before his eyes.

"Junior Brother Liu!" One of the owners of the figures was a black-clad young man. The moment he saw Liu Qi's body on the ground, horror dawned on him at once.

It was apparent that he and Liu Qi were both disciples of Izumo Sect.

"Senior Brother Xiao!" The instance the other two young men saw Xiao Ping's body, horror dawned on their faces as well. Their gazes that were now trained on Zhang Yan had an additional hint of horror in them.

The two of them exchanged glances, and as though they had reached a tacit agreement, they quickly turned around to try and escape the place.

What a joke!

They would never be a match for a person who could even kill their Senior Brother Xiao.

"Since you're already here, don't think of leaving anymore!" Zhang Yan breathed out. He lifted his hands, two waves of majestic blue ice flame swept out and chased after the two Izumo Sect's disciples before it enveloped and killed them.

The two bodies fell with two soft 'thud' that disturbed the dirt on the ground.

"Ice Concept? Fire Concept?" That black-clad Anicca Sect's disciple's face darkened a little. His eyes gleamed eerily as he glared at Zhang Yan. "You have quite an incredible strength for being able to kill Junior Brother Liu and that Xiao Ping from Izumo Sect. Be that as it may, you're still nothing compared to me!"

The moment the Anicca Sect's disciple finished his words, he charged at Zhang Yan like an arrow that left the bow.

A spirit weapon appeared in his hands. His Origin Energy and Concept followed suit like a shadow and merged with the spirit weapon.

At the same time, over 930 silhouettes of ancient horned dragons appeared above his head and pounced toward Zhang Yan all at once.

"Zhang Yan?" When the Anicca Sect's disciple was charging toward Zhang Yan, a figure similar to a fire elf emerged soundlessly in the cavern.

Chapter 959: Eighth Level Advance Fire Concept!

It was a woman whose beauty could overthrow a kingdom. Her surroundings seemed to pale in comparison when she stood there.

Her red dress fluttered even though there was no wind. Her graceful and slender figure was so charming it made one's mind raced with thoughts and caused one to have the urge to rush toward her and pull her into a tight embrace.

However, her appearance was too quiet that it did not alert Zhang Yan and that black-clad Anicca Sect's disciple.

"Second Level Void Transformation? A comprehension at the Third Level Void Transformation Concept?" The moment Zhang Yan, whose face was originally a little solemn, saw the Heaven and Earth Phenomenon that the Anicca Sect's disciple had drawn out, a smirk crept up on the corner of his mouth immediately.

At first, he thought this guy dared to spout such words was because he possessed a strength that was more powerful than Xiao Ping, the Izumo Sect's disciple that he had killed earlier.

However, right now, it looked like he only possessed a strength that was equivalent to Xiao Ping.

'Perhaps, he thought Xiao Ping was not as strong as him,' Zhang Yan thought to himself.

Xiao Ping, who possessed a strength that was on par with this Anicca Sect's disciple, had also died in his hand with just one blow. Naturally, this Anicca Sect's disciple would not be an exception.

With only one blow, ice flame blasted out of Zhang Yan's hands and killed him instantly.

"The Union of Ice and Flame?" When Zhang Yan was about to leave after killing that Anicca Sect's disciple and taking his Spatial Ring and his spirit weapon, a gentle and sweet voice sounded by his ears without any warning.

Zhang Yan was not unfamiliar with this voice. For this reason, his face could not help but turn a shade paler immediately.

'Since when did she arrive?' An inconceivable thought formed in his mind before he turned around and looked at Feng Tian Wu, the fire elf-like woman who stood nearby.

Feng Tian Wu was no stranger to Zhang Yan.

Several months ago, during the Martial Competition of the Ten Dynasties that was organized by Skywolf Fort, Feng Tian Wu had displayed an extraordinary strength.

However, compared to him, her strength was still far behind. It was not worth mentioning at all!

It did not cross Zhang Yan's mind that in just a few months, Feng Tian Wu would actually possess a strength that allowed her to appear behind him soundlessly.

He could not imagine the outcome at all if she had launched an attack on him.

Beads of sweat instantly appeared on Zhang Yan's forehead.

"Feng Tian Wu?" Calmly, Zhang Yan stood opposite of Feng Tian Wu in a stalemate. Faced with this woman who was infatuated with Duan Ling Tian, he did not dare to slack at all.

The fact that she could appear behind him without making any sound meant that she was no longer the person she used to be.

When Feng Tian Wu looked at Zhang Yan while she stood there, that beautiful face was so calm that it was as though she had no emotions at all. Unhurriedly, she opened her mouth and bluntly told Zhang Yan of her intention toward the Profundity Fragment in his hand, "Hand over that Ninth Level Monarch Stage Profundity Fragment and leave."

It was apparent that she was also attracted by the Martial Emperor's message that had a great penetration energy.

Zhang Yan's eyes narrowed as he answered coldly, "Let's see if you have the ability to make me hand over the Profundity Fragment!"

If the Feng Tian Wu from before had said such words to him, he would have thought of it as one of the greatest jokes in the world.

However, he did not dare to think like that anymore.

The fact that Feng Tian Wu could appear behind him soundlessly indirectly meant that her strength was at least on par with him or maybe even a little better than him.

Whoosh!

In the face of Zhang Yan's provocation, Feng Tian Wu narrowed her eyes. The red dress on her body fluttered and made her look as though she was a real fire elf that was particularly eye-catching.

Without any warning, waves of milky Origin Energy rose up from her body like a milky flame that danced around her body gently and rhythmically.

At this moment, the Heaven and Earth Energy whirled above her head as the Heaven and Earth Phenomenon solidified into form.

As a red spirit snake-like long whip appeared in Feng Tian Wu's hand, the Heaven and Earth Phenomenon changed again. More silhouettes of ancient horned dragons appeared out of thin air.

"T-This..." The moment Zhang Yan saw the Heaven and Earth Phenomenon appearing above Feng Tian Wu, his aloof face froze a little.

It was not that her Heaven and Earth Phenomenon was particularly horrifying, it was just that it had exceeded his imagination!

First, 60 silhouettes of ancient horned dragons appeared above

Feng Tian Wu's head, and then it was followed by another 42 silhouettes of ancient horned dragons.

The Fourth Level Void Interpretation?

Grade three spirit whip?

A grade three spirit whip that gave a 70% boost?

Very soon, Zhang Yan's attention shifted and landed on the red spirit snake-like long whip in Feng Tian Wu's hands. Astonishment could be seen in his eyes.

A grade three spirit weapon that could give a 70% boost could be considered as the best of the best out of all grade three spirit weapons.

It was hard for Zhang Yan to imagine which weapon craftsman could actually refine such a terrifying grade three spirit weapon.

"Wait a minute!" In the next moment, he was hit by a pang of realization, and his eyes narrowed immediately. "How could she possibly just be at the Fourth Level Void Interpretation? If she's really just a Fourth Level Void Interpretation martial artist, it would be impossible for her to appear behind me without me noticing at all!"

Zhang Yan was very certain about this.

Within seconds, the instance Zhang Yan saw the milky flame around Feng Tian Wu turned fiery red, he immediately got his answer that solved the confusion in his heart.

The milky flame on Feng Tian Wu soared up and became fiery red as it transformed into a monstrous real flame before engulfing her entire person in it. Waves of bloodcurdling aura emanated out of the flame.

At this moment, Feng Tian Wu flew up and stood high up with her graceful slender figure as the flame soared up in the sky. She was completely engulfed by the obscuring flame. It seemed as though she had transformed into a true fire elf.

Swish!

Heaven and Earth Energy whirled once again beside the 102 silhouettes of ancient horned dragons above Feng Tian Wu's head and gathered into a new Heaven and Earth Phenomenon.

In just a flash, 200 silhouettes of ancient horned dragons emerged right before Zhang Yan's eyes.

"The First Level Advance Fire Concept?" The moment he saw this scene, his eyes narrowed right away.

Zhang Yan's eyes continued to narrow again and again. Eventually, it was repeated so many times that his eyes had become numb.

Lord!

What did he just witness?!

The Heaven and Earth Phenomenon above Feng Tian Wu's head continued to rise all the way up to 1002 silhouettes of ancient horned dragons before the Heaven and Earth Energy in the sky finally disappeared, and the sky finally regained its tranquility.

"T-The Eighth Level Advance Fire Concept!" The scene before him completely crushed the aloofness on Zhang Yan's face. He was flabbergasted and bewildered.

Eighth Level Advance Fire Concept was equivalent to the strength of 900 ancient horned dragons!

Zhang Yan felt like everything was a dream seeing when he saw such a Concept appearing on a Fourth Level Void Interpretation martial artist.

In his opinion, this was something that was practically impossible.

A Fourth Level Void Interpretation martial artist who had comprehended the Eighth Level Void Transformation Concept. If

he did not see this with his own eyes, he would never have believed this to be true.

"No wonder you dared to ask me to hand over the Profundity Fragment even after you've seen my strength. So, it turns out that your strength is actually this powerful huh!" Zhang Yan exclaimed in a deep voice. The gaze that had shifted to Feng Tian Wu turned solemn.

Whoosh!

Just as Zhang Yan's words left his mouth, waves of raging and tyrannical flames rose up from his body as well.

However, unlike the red flames that were on Feng Tian Wu, the flame on his body was blue instead.

Ice flame!

Waves of hot and cold aura emitted out of the ice flame. The contradicting combination caused the air surrounding Zhang Yan to quiver before it set off the sound of a faint explosion.

Boom!

All of a sudden, Feng Tian Wu made her move. Her speed was incredibly fast, all that was left behind was a streak of fiery red flame. A hot aura that covered the entire world swept out as a vast flame shrouded the place where Zhang Yan stood.

Swish! Swish! Swish! Swish!

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The red spirit snake-like long whip in Feng Tian Wu's hand lashed out and fell nimbly on Zhang Yan like a fiery rain. The speed was so fast that it was like streaks of lightning was striking him.

Zhang Yan's face turned completely grave. Without any warning, his hands trembled and started to wave around in front of him.

Finally, a thick shield condensed in front of him. The thick shield

was solidified from gusts and gusts of ice flame.

Wham! Wham! Wham! Wham!

• • •

The long whip on Feng Tian Wu's hand transformed into a fiery rain that blotted out the entire sky as it charged down at Zhang Yan's shield. It caused the shield in front of him to quiver.

In the end, the shield could not hold under the attack and was completely smashed.

Swish!

In that instant when the shield shattered, Zhang Yan retreated swiftly without wasting any time.

"I can only go head-on now!" Taking a deep breath, Zhang Yan's gaze turned colder as he glared at the red-clad woman that was charging toward him from afar. The tyrannical flame surrounding the red-clad woman brought an ultimate sense of coercion to him.

Swish!

Seeing the red-clad woman once again waving the red long whip in her hand, Zhang Yan went forward to take it down instead of retreating.

In the next moment, the gusts of ice flame twining around Zhang Yan's hands stretched out and grasped the red long whip as fast as a lightning.

Slap!

A loud sound reverberated in the air. That was the sound of the red long whip smacking at both of Zhang Yan's palms. Flame energy soared out and pressed on Zhang Yan like it was crushing dead leaves.

"Barf!" The vital energy and blood in Zhang Yan's body surged up as his throat tightened, a mouthful blood that was eye-catching rushed out of his mouth. However, although his internal organs were injured, Zhang Yan was still tightly grasping on to the grade three spirit whip in Feng Tian Wu's hand.

At the same time, an icy aura swept out of his hands as he tried to suppress Feng Tian Wu's Fire Concept with his Ice Concept.

Water subdued Fire.

Ice was formed from water and was colder than water.

For this reason, the ability of ice subduing fire would be greater than that of water.

Waves of icy aura spread out from his hands. With the help of the third-grade spirit whip in Feng Tian Wu's hands, it rolled out like a mat and engulfed Feng Tian Wu.

For a moment, the soaring flame on Feng Tian Wu's body came to a halt as though it was being repressed.

Upon seeing this, Zhang Yan's eyes brightened.

However, very soon, his eyes narrowed again as horror dawned on his face.

Wham!

A few seconds after the flame on Feng Tian Wu's body came to a halt, it suddenly exploded without any warning, melting and driving out the chilly aura that shrouded her body. Tyrannical flame surged into the red long whip and endowed the long whip with a greater power.

The long whip quivered, and the flame soared up and shook off Zhang Yan's hands before it continued to shoot out a heinous flame that charged at Zhang Yan in an overbearing manner like a flaming behemoth.

"SH*T!" In the face of this scene, Zhang Yan's face changed greatly. His eyes shrank immediately.

Chapter 960: Feng Tian Wu's Changes

Zhang Yan's Ice Concept might have been able to suppress the Fire Concept if both of their strengths were equal.

At that moment, Zhang Yan's Ice Concept was nothing at all in front of the Eighth Level Advance Fire Concept that Feng Tian Wu had comprehended. It could be easily crushed.

'Whoosh! Whoosh!'

Faced with the burning flame that was getting bigger and bigger on the whip in Feng Tian Wu's hand, Zhang Yan forcefully attacked with the strength of 978 ancient horned dragons' with both his palms.

However, his force was inferior to the burning flame on the whip that contained a thousand ancient horned dragons' strength as Feng Tian Wu swept the whip out.

'Baam!'

A loud thud spread out, and a series of ear-piercing explosions reverberated over and over again. The flames in the air engulfed Zhang Yan like a gigantic flame beast. It took awhile for the flames to disappear.

Zhang Yan's body was thrown off as he spat out blood that rose from his throat. He looked extremely pale.

"Here you go!"

When Zhang Yan saw Feng Tian Wu coming after him, he solemnly lifted his arm and tossed the Ninth Level Monarch Stage Fire Profundity Fragment that he took from the exquisite box earlier to her.

'Thump!'

A chill filled Feng Tian Wu's eyes as soon as she caught the box. She glared at Zhang Yan with a murderous intent.

"Oh, no!"

Zhang Yan's expression changed greatly when he saw Feng Tian Wu's murderous intent.

He had figured out that Feng Tian Wu wanted to end his life to prevent the news of her obtaining the Profundity Fragment from spreading.

'Run!'

Without any delay, Zhang Yan who was covered in blue Ice Flame fled like a blue lightning without even turning his head back.

After running for a while, Zhang Yan slowed down when he realized that there was no whistling sound behind him.

At the same time, there were still drops of cold sweat on his forehead.

'Why didn't she come after me?'

'Did I overthink the situation?'

Zhang Yan began to run again as he shook his head. Soon, he entered another cave and disappeared completely.

Due to the fact that Zhang Yan had fled quickly, he did not notice the changes that were happening to Feng Tian Wu.

Indeed, Feng Tian Wu had wanted to kill Zhang Yan when she caught the Ninth Level Monarch Stage Fire Profundity Fragment that he tossed over. She could not let Zhang Yan spread the news of her obtaining the Profundity Fragment after all.

If that happened, troubles would come looking for her.

Although she was not afraid of troubles, she did not like troubles.

However, when she was about to kill Zhang Yan, she noticed the Profundity Fragment in her hand seemed to be resonating with a certain energy in her body that caused her Origin Energy to run rampant.

At that moment, the only thing that she could do was watch as Zhang Yan fled further and further away before her eyes as she hurriedly practiced her cultivation to suppress the rampant Origin Energy in her body.

'It's the Fire Spirit Body's energy again?'

Feng Tian Wu managed to figure it out easily.

A forceful smile suddenly appeared on the corner of her lips without her noticing.

'Hmm?'

Just when she finally managed to slow down the Origin Energy that was running rampant in her body, a flash caught her eyes. She noticed that a red chilly glow was flashing in the Profundity Fragment in her hand, and suddenly her palm was cut open.

Blood spurted out from her palm. It flowed out endlessly and covered half of her palm.

'Drip! Drip!'

...

Drops of blood were dripping from Feng Tian Wu's palm accompanied by a crisp and clear sound.

Feng Tian Wu's expression changed. When she was about to stop the bleeding using her Origin Energy, she noticed the Profundity Fragment that was flashing with flaming red energy suddenly melting. It turned into a pool of flaming red liquid and entered her body through the wound on her palm.

At the same time, she noticed that the wound on her palm was healing on its own. She would have thought it was just an illusion if it was not for the blood stain that remained.

'Where did the Profundity Fragment go?'

Feng Tian Wu's expression changed when she regained her senses.

She recalled that the Ninth Level Monarch Stage Fire Profundity Fragment seemed to have entered through her palm and into her body earlier.

Meanwhile, Feng Tian Wu seemed to have noticed something and narrowed her eyes immediately.

At this moment, she could clearly sense a burning stream was entering her arm from her palm as it spread all over her body.

Apart from that, the Fire Spirit Body energy that had been latent in her body began to run rampant all of a sudden with the arrival of the burning stream.

It felt like a passionate host that was welcoming its guest.

All of a sudden, Feng Tian Wu seemed to have sensed something again. She thought to herself, as waves of monstrous flames began to burn on her body, "Is this ... the Ninth Level Advance Fire Concept?" Her body was constantly emitting a scorching aura.

Feng Tian Wu looked at the sky above her head almost as soon as the flames began to burn. The Heaven and Earth Phenomenon was forming above her head.

A thousand ancient dragons' silhouettes hovered above her head rearing to go.

Without using any Origin Energy or any spirit weapon, she managed to draw out such a Heaven and Earth Phenomenon just by merging the Heaven and Earth Energy with the Fire Concept.

She did not know when but her comprehension of Fire Concept had ascended from the Eighth Void Transformation to the Ninth Void Transformation!

At this moment, Feng Tian Wu seemed to have noticed something again. She shook her head expressionlessly as she thought to herself, "That's not right... I feel that it can be even more powerful than this."

'Baam!'

When Feng Tian Wu was deep in thought, the flames that surrounded her body soared, and its color turned darker.

Meanwhile, the Heaven and Earth Energy stirred in the air before it eventually formed the silhouettes of a thousand ancient horned dragons. Unfortunately, it vanished before it could solidify into form.

When the thousand ancient horned dragons faded away before it managed to form, Feng Tian Wu's expression on her pretty face shifted. She was in pain, and she let out an involuntary scream, "Ahh!"

When she activated the Fire Concept for elevation earlier, all she could feel was that her body seemed to be burning on its own. An unknown burning energy was rising in her body, and it made her feel as though she was going to explode.

Therefore, she stopped the Fire Concept's elevation immediately.

At this moment, the unknown burning energy was spreading all over her body and making her feel like she was going to explode finally quieted down.

"That's the energy from the Fire Spirit Body, but it seems like there's another energy... I know! That's the energy that was transformed from the Ninth Level Monarch Stage Fire Profundity Fragment!"

Feng Tian Wu's pretty face looked pale. She did not expect the Profundity Fragment that had strangely melted into liquid and entered her body would bring about such a major change to her body.

First, her Fire Concept had abruptly ascended to the Ninth Advanced Level. Then, she could faintly feel as though she could elevate the Fire Concept even further when she was connecting the Ninth Level Advance Fire Concept. Finally, the elevation of the

Fire Concept which was two times more powerful than the Ninth Level Advance Fire Concept!

Perhaps it could no longer be considered as Fire Concept.

Feng Tian Wu breathed in the chilly air as she thought to that point, 'Isn't that the energy that can only be obtained by comprehending the First Level Monarch Stage Fire Profundity?'

First Level Monarch Stage Fire Profundity was twice as powerful as Ninth Level Advance Fire Concept. As soon as it was connected and performed, it was as powerful as the strength of two thousand ancient horned dragons!

"So I can connect and perform First Level Monarch Stage Fire Profundity now?"

Feng Tian Wu was stunned when she thought about what had just happened. She could not believe what had just happened, and there was disbelief in her eyes.

She thought to herself and began to look into her body to see what was happening.

A flaming red fragment appeared before her eyes immediately. It was the Fire Profundity Fragment that was formed after she comprehended the Advanced Fire Concept. It was now a Ninth Level Fire Profundity Fragment.

'Hmm?'

Soon, Feng Tian Wu realized that the Ninth Level Fire Profundity Fragment was different from ordinary Concept Fragment. There was a tiny gap on top of it.

There was a wave of flaming red energy sparkling on top of the tiny gap that seemed real.

"Isn't that the Profundity Fragment's sparkling energy? It seems my Ninth Level Fire Concept Fragment is transforming into the First Level Monarch Stage Fire Profundity?" Feng Tian Wu's eyes widened, and disbelief was written all over her pretty face again.

"Although I can connect and perform the First Level Monarch Stage Fire Profundity now, the energy coming from the Fire Spirit Body in my body almost caused my body to explode!"

'If I didn't retract the Fire Profundity in time, I'm afraid it wouldn't take long for my body to explode... At that time, I'll explode into ashes from the Fire Spirit Body's energy without having to wait until I'm thirty!'

Feng Tian Wu inhaled deeply, and she was anxious when she thought of that.

"So what was that exactly?"

Apart from forcing smile on her pretty face, Feng Tian Wu did not know what else she could do when she thought about the changes in her body.

"It was the Ninth Level Monarch Stage Fire Concept Fragment! It should be the energy from the Fire Spirit Body in my body that melted it into liquid. When it entered my body, it brought changes to my body."

She immediately suppressed the anxiety she felt as soon she figured out the answer after recalling the cause and effect.

After verifying the cause, Feng Tian Wu could not help but sigh. "I don't know if this is a blessing or a curse... I've finally successfully comprehended the Fire Concept to the Ninth Advanced Level! At the risk of my body exploding, I can even connect and perform the First Level Monarch Stage Fire Profundity by force!"

A Profundity Fragment actually caused such a change to her body, Feng Tian Wu did not see that coming at all.

"Whatever... I'll die anyway if my cultivation base doesn't break through to the Void Transformation in a couple of years."

Chapter 961: Tricolor Pill

Feng Tian Wu sighed as she stared into the distance. Her beauty made others eager to sympathize with her.

Although she still had no idea why the Ninth Level Monarch Stage Fire Profundity Fragment turned into liquid and entered her body or why it resonated with the Fire Spirit Body's energy, it was no longer important to her.

"Brother Duan..."

Feng Tian Wu did not know when but a purple silhouette appeared in her mind. It was a young man who was always dressed in purple. He had straight brows, bright eyes, and he was handsome.

"Even if the prediction isn't real... I, Feng Tian Wu, don't regret knowing you in my life."

Feng Tian Wu's pretty face was flushed as she mumbled to herself. It was so red that it looked like blood was dripping out. The shyness on her face could make men fall head over heels for her.

Naturally, Duan Ling Tian did not see Feng Tian Wu's current shy expression.

He was traveling from cave to cave at the moment, attempting to figure out the direction of the Martial Emperor's secret treasure to get to the palace in the center zone.

It was the true highlight of the hunt for the Martial Emperor's secret treasure.

Value wise, the Emperor Stage Profundity Fragment in the Martial Emperor powerhouse's body surpassed all of the treasures including the seven Monarch Stage Profundity Fragments.

"No matter what... I must obtain the Emperor Stage Profundity

Fragment!"

Naturally, Duan Ling Tian who had the Rebirth Martial Emperor's memories could not be any more clear on how precious the Emperor Stage Profundity Fragment was.

"There's only one Emperor Stage Profundity Fragment in the great treasure that the Rebirth Martial Emperor left behind... Furthermore, it wasn't his. He had used his Emperor Stage Profundity Fragment much earlier when he was performing rebirth."

From the Rebirth Martial Emperor's memories, Duan Ling Tian found out that one of the conditions for rebirth from the Three Lives Rebirth Technique that the Rebirth Martial Emperor cultivated that time was to burn his Emperor Stage Profundity Fragment.

Therefore, the Rebirth Martial Emperor's did not leave an Emperor Stage Profundity Fragment behind.

"The Rebirth Martial Emperor's Emperor Stage Profundity Fragment that he left behind is a First Level Emperor Stage Profundity Fragment so I can't use it anyway."

Duan Ling Tian jolted and thought to himself, "Perhaps the Emperor Stage Profundity Fragment that's left behind in the Martial Emperor's body in the Martial Emperor's secret treasure is one that I can use."

Duan Ling Tian was even more desperate when he thought of this.

'Whoosh!'

Duan Ling Tian proceeded with the hunt. He sped up, and it was so fast that it felt like he was rushing to reincarnate.

Time was flashing by quietly.

Duan Ling Tian did not stop searching.

Along the way, Five Element Sect's disciples' bodies appeared before his eyes one after another. He did not look too good when he saw that.

Among the Five Element Sect's disciples, there was one Wood Peak's disciple that he was familiar with.

Before entering the Martial Emperor's Secret Treasure, the Wood Peak's disciples treated him respectfully, and they would address him as Senior Brother Ling Tian all the time.

He had to admit that his pride secretly soared every time he heard the group of Wood Peak's disciples calling him Senior Brother Ling Tian.

After all, those Wood Peak's disciples were all older than him.

However, they were now dead bodies.

"Tian Wu, Su Li, Brother Zhang, Daniu, Chen Wei... Are you guys doing alright?"

Duan Ling Tian was inwardly troubled as a couple of silhouettes flashed in his mind.

At this moment, he thought it was most fortunate that there was nobody he knew in the pile of dead bodies he saw along the way. He could not help but feel fortunate.

Time passed by silently.

Soon, a month had gone by.

Duan Ling Tian continued his journey of traveling from cave to cave in the Martial Emperor's secret treasure. He bumped into some reckless young powerhouses who would attack him along the way.

Without an exception, all of the attackers died in his hands.

Until this point, the most powerful young powerhouse that Duan Ling Tian bumped into was Peng Bao from Anicca Sect.

Naturally, Duan Ling Tian knew that there would definitely be someone in the Martial Emperor's secret treasure whose ability could compare with Peng Bao or was even more powerful than Peng Bao.

Peng Bao came from the second-rate force, Anicca Sect, while there were another two people who came from the second-rate forces among the young powerhouses who entered the Martial Emperor's secret treasure this time.

Throughout the journey, almost everyone who initiated a fight with Duan Ling Tian would be killed by him directly.

"It's a pity that I didn't encounter another four Monarch Stage Profundity Fragments."

Duan Ling Tian could not help but feel a little glum when he thought about this, but he very quickly let go of that emotion.

He could not help but laugh at himself as soon as he let go of his glumness. "I'm too greedy... I've already gotten a Monarch Stage Profundity Fragment, and now I'm longing for another four."

'Whoosh!'

Duan Ling Tian moved again, and soon after he entered another cave. With just a glance, he saw two bodies lying on the ground.

The bodies were rotten, and they were emitting a disgusting stench.

Duan Ling Tian did not cover his nose nor did he wear an irritated expression.

In his past life on earth, he had encountered many situations like this as a Weapons Specialist. He had experienced scenes that were even more disgusting than this so he was immune to this since the beginning.

'Hmm?'

Initially, he did not think anything would surprise him as the

cave was just another place that Duan Ling Tian passed by randomly, and he had encountered similar scenes along the way.

However, he seemed to notice something strange. He stopped all of a sudden when he was about to leave to another cave from the exit.

At that very moment, Duan Ling Tian's eyes were completely focused on a plant that was situated far in the cave.

It was an extremely unique plant, it was not the ordinary green like most plants, but it had three different colors.

Its root that was showing was gold, the branches were purple, and the leaves were red.

Subconsciously, he knew this plant was extraordinary after he saw how unique it was. He browsed through the Rebirth Martial Emperor's life memories in an attempt to search for an answer.

Soon, he found the answer.

"The Tri... Tricolor Plant?"

Suddenly, Duan Ling Tian's pupils shrunk, and one could tell from his face that he was dumbstruck. His eyes lit up as though he had seen some precious treasure.

However, Duan Ling Tian's expression soon froze when he saw three tiny openings on the plant.

"Seems like the Tricolor Plant had Tricolor Fruits... The Tricolor Fruits are not ordinary spirit fruits. It's the general name for three spirit fruits. Each of them has a different color, and their medicinal efficacies are not reduced. Their medicinal efficacies are gentle that even a Void Interpretation martial artist can consume them."

"Consuming any one of it will help a martial artist below Fourth Level Void Transformation to break through a level! If a First Level Void Transformation martial artist consumes all three spirit fruits, he'll be able to ascend three levels in a short period of time and get to the Fourth Level Void Transformation immediately."

Duan Ling Tian took a deep breath and frowned, "Who was it? That person has such a great luck."

"Judging from the opening marks on the Tricolor Plant, the spirit fruits have been plucked at least a month ago."

Soon, Duan Ling Tian began to mumble to himself as he observed the Tricolor Plant closely, "If I was the one who found these three spirit fruits, I would definitely find a secluded place to cultivate after eating the spirit fruits."

"After all, the more powerful a person's ability is, the longer he'll live in the Martial Emperor's secret treasure to obtain more precious treasures."

When he thought to this point, Duan Ling Tian's eyes gleamed. "Perhaps I should search nearby for the person who obtained the three spirit fruits... I'm sure he's in somewhere secluded cultivating after eating the spirit fruits."

"It's impossible for him to consume all three spirit fruits in such a short period of time."

Initially, Duan Ling Tian thought that the three spirit fruits were obtained by three people, and were now part of the Origin Energies in those three individuals' bodies.

However, he found out that the two bodies were killed with the same weapon and method after proper observation. It was obvious that it was the same person who killed the two people.

"It should only be one person... I must take a bet even if it's more than a person! If I'm right, I'll get at least one spirit fruit. If I'm wrong, it's just a little time wasted."

Duan Ling Tian very quickly made up his mind.

Although Duan Ling Tian had made up his mind, he was not in a rush to leave.

He stared at the Tricolor Plant as he grinned, "It seems like the person who took the Tricolor Fruits doesn't know the good stuff... Although the Tricolor Plant itself isn't as precious as the three spirit fruits, with refinement from some medicinal herbs, it can be refined into Tricolor Pills that can help elevate the cultivation base a little."

There was nothing that looked extraordinary on the Tricolor Plant.

Even with Spiritual Force, there was nothing special about it that could be found.

However, the Rebirth Martial Emperor's memories told Duan Ling Tian that the Tricolor Plant had accumulated much Heaven and Earth Spirit Energy throughout the years as the bearer of the Tricolor Fruits.

The Heaven and Earth Spirit Energy had integrated perfectly with the Tricolor Plant as though they were one.

Only with a unique medicinal refinement method, one could transfer the Heaven and Earth Spirit Energy that was accumulated in the Tricolor Plant. The extracted Heaven and Earth Spirit Energy would then be used together with the Tricolor Plant to refine the Tricolor Pill.

"The Tricolor Pill isn't difficult to refine... As long as one knows the method, even a grade three Alchemist can refine it, let alone a grade one Alchemist like me!"

Duan Ling Tian had a smile on his face. He had already made up his mind to refine the Tricolor Pill.

Coincidentally, he had the other medicinal herbs that were needed to refine the Tricolor Pill.

"Tricolor Pill's medicinal efficacy alone isn't enough to help me break through... However, it won't be difficult for the Tricolor Pill's medicinal efficacy to drive the powerful medicinal efficacy of the Rebirth Pill to help me break through to the Second Level Void Transformation."

That was what Duan Ling Tian had in mind at the moment.

Although the Rebirth Pill's medicinal efficacy's rate of release had sped up a lot more ever since he entered the Void Transformation, it was still limited compared to an extraordinary Void Transformation martial artist.

The spirit fruit's medicinal efficacy was needed to trigger the Rebirth Pill so it could fully display its overbearing medicinal efficacy.

Naturally, the Tricolor Pill that was similar to the spirit fruit pill would also work as well.

Chapter 962: The Eighth Form!

Duan Ling Tian had the medical catalyst, the Tricolor Plant, that was required to refine the Tricolor Pill before his eyes. Moreover, he had the medicinal herbs that were needed to refine the Tricolor Pill.

Therefore, he made up his mind to refine the Tricolor Pill immediately!

In terms of grades, the Tricolor Pill was a grade three medicinal pill that only an Alchemist above grade three could successfully refine.

It would not work if it was not an Alchemist who was above grade three even if he knew the refining method.

Meanwhile, Duan Ling Tian who had fused with the Rebirth Martial Emperor's memories had inherited the Rebirth Martial Emperor's refining methods and experience. He was a qualified Alchemist who was above grade three.

Now that his cultivation base had broken through to the First Level Void Transformation, he could make a grade one Pill Fire with the help of the Rebirth Martial Emperor's memories and experience in refining methods.

That was why he was currently a grade one Alchemist!

A grade one Alchemist's existence was rare even in the Foreign Lands. They were usually present in first-rate forces, and their number was extremely low.

Even in a first-rate force, having a grade one Alchemist was considered rare.

Some first-rate forces did not even have any grade one Alchemists among them.

They would usually solicit a grade one Alchemist outside

whenever they needed grade one medicinal pills, and the price they had to pay was hefty.

However, although that was the case, they would still go for it like a flock of geese.

A grade one medicinal pill's value could not be compared to a grade two medicinal pill, let alone medicinal pills that were grade three or below that could not even compare to a grade two medicinal pill.

Duan Ling Tian's achievement in Martial Dao aside, the fact that he became a grade one Alchemist before the age of thirty was enough to make one's jaw drop.

"However, with the Pill Fire that I have mastered, I'll need a grade one spirit weapon cauldron to refine the medicinal pill... An ordinary cauldron won't be able to endure my Pill Fire at all."

Duan Ling Tian lifted his arm, and a gust of purple flame began to burn on his arm. There was a golden color on the edges surrounding the purple flame.

It was the Violet Gold Pill Fire, it was a grade one Pill Fire!

Only a grade one spirit weapon cauldron could contain a grade one Pill Fire.

Low-grade spirit weapon cauldron would melt into a pool of liquid as soon as a grade one Pill Fire was put into it, let alone refining medicinal pills.

'With my current ability, it won't be difficult to refine a grade one spirit weapon cauldron... It's just that I don't have the necessary materials to refine a grade one spirit weapon cauldron on hand,' Duan Ling Tian frowned when he thought about this.

Ever since his cultivation base had broken through to Void Transformation, apart from being able to form a grade one Pill Fire with Origin energy, he could also form a grade one Weapon Flame.

Ever since he fused with the Rebirth Martial Emperor's memories and inherited the Rebirth Martial Emperor's experience, and medicine refinement and weapon crafting methods, he could be considered as a qualified grade one Alchemist and weapons craftsman since he managed to form a grade one Pill Fire and Weapon Flame.

Due to the fact that he had inherited the Rebirth Martial Emperor's experience, and medicine refinement and weapon crafting methods, he had become so powerful that he could be considered as being the best among the group of grade one Alchemists and weapons craftsmen in Cloud Continent.

Based on his medicine refinement ability, he could refine a grade one medicinal pill with a Purity above 90%. Could the other grade one Alchemists achieve that?

When it came to crafting weapons, he could easily refine a grade one spirit weapon that could provide a 90% boost. Could other weapons craftsmen achieve that?

Since he possessed the Rebirth Martial Emperor's memories, he was like a reincarnated Rebirth Martial Emperor whenever he refined medicinal pills and spirit weapons. He could easily refine the best of the best.

"I have quite a lot of Spatial Rings on hand... I haven't gotten a chance to open them up and look at what's inside. Perhaps I'll be able to find the materials that I need to refine a grade one spirit weapon cauldron.

Duan Ling Tian's heart jolted as an assortment of Spatial Rings came out of the Spatial Ring in his hand. One by one, he performed the Blood Ownership Claim on the rings with the intention to look for the materials that he needed to refine the cauldron.

These Spatial Rings were the rewards that he obtained earlier. He was too lazy to manage them so he usually put them away in his Spatial Ring.

After looking at more than thirty Spatial Rings, Duan Ling Tian stopped moving his hands. He managed to gather all of the Crafting weapon materials that he needed to refine a grade one spirit weapon cauldron.

"I should perform Blood Ownership Claim on the remaining Spatial Rings and take everything out later when I have the time... Otherwise, I wouldn't know if there's anything in there that might possibly help me during a critical situation."

Duan Long Tian made up his mind after learning a 'lesson' this time.

Since Duan Ling Tian had gathered all the materials, he began to refine a grade one spirit weapon cauldron. He did not go out of his way to look for a secluded place.

The fact that he inherited his Crafting weapons' ability from the Rebirth Martial Emperor and that he was currently a grade one weapon craftsman, he could ignore all the external disturbance to a certain level.

Even if there was an interference, the worst it could do was affect the quality of the cauldron he refined.

Although a high quality was not a requirement because the grade one spirit weapon cauldron belonged to the assistive spirit weapons category instead of the defensive spirit weapons category, the higher the spirit weapon cauldron's quality, the higher the success rate of the medicinal pill.

However, Duan Ling Tian who had fused with the Rebirth Martial Emperor's memories and inherited his life's Crafting weapon methods and experience did not have to bother with the spirit weapon's quality at all.

He could successfully refine medicinal pills no matter how poor the spirit weapon cauldron was!

All of these did not only come from the Rebirth Martial

Emperor's Crafting weapon methods and experience that he inherited. After all, he had also inherited the Rebirth Martial Emperor's medicine refinement methods and experience in his other life.

The Rebirth Martial Emperor had two lives' experience. In Cloud Continent, he achieved peak attainment in the Dao of Weapons Refinement and Dao of Medicine Refinement.

Naturally, Duan Ling Tian who possessed his memories was not inferior to him.

"Begin!"

Duan Ling Tian's eyes gleamed as he took out the old spirit weapon cauldron that he had earlier and began to refine the grade one spirit weapon cauldron with the assortment of Crafting weapon materials.

The materials floated in midair, it turned into liquid one after the other as Duan Ling Tian worked on them.

At the same time, Duan Ling Tian's both hands were moving like lightning. The magical weapon crafting method came effortlessly to him. It was so fast that ordinary people would not be able to see his movements clearly at all.

Soon after, the liquid merged together.

As time passed by, the spirit weapon cauldron's form began to appear. After Duan Ling Tian refined it, a grade one spirit weapon cauldron appeared.

From the beginning to the end, Duan Ling Tian had only spent three hours.

If the other grade one weapon craftsmen from Cloud Continent were to see this with their own eyes, they would be stunned for a long time by the weapon crafting speed.

An ordinary grade one weapon craftsman would take at least

three to five days to refine a grade one spirit weapon cauldron like this.

It would not be surprising if they took ten days to perform the refinement in detail.

However, Duan Ling Tian managed to refine a grade one spirit weapon cauldron successfully within a short three hours. Since nobody disturbed him, the cauldron's quality was extremely high.

'Phew!'

Duan Ling Tian grabbed the cauldron as he lifted his arm. After he looked at the cauldron and the few cave exits, he mumbled to himself, "Seems like there are not many left alive in the Martial Emperor's secret treasure... It's been a whole three hours but nobody came here."

There were many treasures in the Martial Emperor's secret treasure, it drove the group of young powerhouses crazy when they came in.

Casualties were naturally unavoidable when the group of young powerhouses fought each other for the treasures.

Along his journey, Duan Ling Tian had seen at least fifty dead bodies.

"They were here for the treasures, they must have amazing dreams in their minds when they first came in... However, dreams are beautiful, and reality is cruel. In the end, they lost their lives here."

As he recalled the bodies lying everywhere along his journey, Duan Ling Tian could not help but sigh.

Soon, Duan Ling Tian's eyes were focused on the grade one spirit weapon cauldron that was in his hand. He had a smile on his face.

Duan Ling Tian plucked the Tricolor Plant slowly as he thought to himself, 'Now I can finally refine the Tricolor Pill.' After cleaning the soil off, he rolled it into a ball and tossed it directly into the cauldron.

At the same time, Duan Ling Tian took out some medicinal herbs from his side. Those were just some rather ordinary medicinal herbs.

Although the Tricolor Pill was a good grade three medicinal pill, the other medicinal herbs were nothing special due to its low grade, and it depended on the Tricolor Plant as the main medicine.

After gathering all the medicinal herbs, a wave of violet gold flame formed and burned in Duan Ling Tian's hands. It was the grade one Pill Fire.

As a grade one Alchemist, there was naturally no pressure at all for him to refine a grade three medicinal pill like the Tricolor Pill.

Following the Rebirth Martial Emperor's memory, Duan Ling Tian's hands were gradually moving faster like lightning that was continuously intersecting. The current in the space seemed to follow the rhythm as well.

A faint air explosion sounded and rippled in the air. A suppressed current swept toward him while gusts of strong wind blew at him. It caused the plants in the damp cave to shake.

It would take three to four hours at least for another grade one Alchemist to refine a grade three medicinal pill like the Tricolor Pill.

However, grade one Alchemist Duan Ling Tian naturally could not be compared to other grade one Alchemists.

He recalled his Pill Fire after a mere one hour.

'Wham!'

As both of Duan Ling Tian's hands landed on the cauldron, a medicinal pill shot out from the cauldron all of a sudden. The medicinal pill looked unique.

It was unique because there was a combination of three colors on its surface.

There were gold, purple, and red color. Those were the three colors from the Tricolor Plant.

It was the Tricolor Pill!

Without further ado, Duan Ling Tian hurriedly tossed the Tricolor Pill into his mouth and sat cross-legged in the air immediately. He began to cultivate with his eyes closed.

When Duan Ling Tian's cultivation base was at the Void Interpretation, he cultivated the Seventh Form, the Sword Dragon Form, from the Nine Dragons War Sovereign Technique.

Apart from helping him to comprehend the Sword Concept, the Sword Dragon Form came with a set of heaven rank Advanced sword skill, the Nine Dragons' Radiant Flash. It was a set of extremely overbearing sword skill.

Now that Duan Ling Tian's cultivation base had broken through to Void Transformation, naturally he was no longer cultivating the Seventh Form, the Sword Dragon Form from the Nine Dragons War Sovereign Technique.

He had begun to cultivate the Eighth Form of the Nine Dragons War Sovereign Technique.

When the author mentions above grade three he actually means grade one and grade two.

Grade two is above grade three and similarly grade one is above grade two.

Also, this was originally Drip Blood Establish Ownership (滴血认主) which represents the act of dripping one's blood to claim ownership on it. We've renamed it to Blood Ownership Claim.

Chapter 963: Second Level Void Transformation Concept!

The eighth form of the Nine Dragons War Sovereign Technique, Roving Dragon Form!

Duan Ling Tian circulated his Origin Energy according to Roving Dragon Form's mental cultivation method and managed to complete a circuit just a moment later.

At the same time, the medicinal efficacy of the Tricolor Pill flowed into his body from his throat and began to merge with his Origin energy.

Duan Ling Tian's Dantian still had the dormant but potent medicinal efficacy of the Rebirth Pill. It suddenly surged as if it sensed something before it merged with the Origin Energy and Tricolor Pill's medicinal efficacy.

Instantly, the Origin Energy in his body circulated even faster. It was as fast as a flashing lightning. In just a blink of an eye, several circuits had been completed the Roving Dragon Form's mental cultivation method.

Slowly, Duan Ling Tian focused entirely on his cultivation. Nevertheless, his Spiritual Force was still alert in the outside world. He would immediately wake up and attack if anyone got too close.

Everything was proceeding smoothly as he looked at the Origin Energy in his body circulating in accordance to the Roving Dragon Form's mental cultivation method. Duan Ling Tian finally had some time to think.

'The Dragon Soaring The Nine Heavens, an Advanced Heaven Rank Movement Technique and Martial Skill, is part of the eighth form of Nine Dragons War Sovereign Technique, Roving Dragon Form... The basic section was Spirit Serpent Movement Technique and Whirlwind.'

Duan Ling Tian's heart jolted as he muttered, "However, reaching the initial stage of the Dragon Soaring The Nine Heavens with Whirlwind as the basic section is still a bit lacking."

Dragon Soaring The Nine Heavens was the same as an ordinary martial skill, it can be divided into the rudiments stage, initial stage, mastery stage, and perfection stage.

At the rudiments stage, Dragon Soaring The Nine Heavens was even slower than the mastery stage Whirlwind that Duan Ling Tian had already mastered. Due to that, Duan Ling Tian did not immediately cultivate Dragon Soaring The Nine Heavens.

With the memories of Rebirth Martial Emperor, he recently intended to reach the initial stage of the Dragon Soaring The Nine Heavens with Whirlwind as the basic section in one sitting. At that time, it would be effortless to cross a dozen ancient horned dragons' strength with his greatly increased speed.

Moreover, there was something unique about the eighth form of Nine Dragons War Sovereign Technique, the Roving Dragon Form. It stressed upon wind birthing fire. What it meant was to comprehend the Fire Concept through the Wind Concept.

One could fuel Fire Concept with Wind Concept when one had comprehended Fire Concept, and it would amplify the power of the Fire Concept.

Duan Ling Tian was not foreign to the concept of fueling Fire Concept with Wind Concept. His previous mortal enemy, Zi Shang, was a master of a concept like this. He could increase the power of Fire Concept by half, it was similar to the Earth Concept drawing support from Earth Energy.

Suddenly, a fragment appeared in each of Duan Ling Tian's hands. A dark green fragment and a dark purple fragment.

It was a Ninth Level Advanced Wind Concept fragment, and a

Ninth Level Advanced Thunder Concept Fragment that originated from the body of the Sect Leader of Crimson Moon Sect, one of the three major forces in the eastern district of northern desert.

The Sect Leader of Crimson Moon Sect was killed by the Sect Leader of Five Element Sect, Guo Chong, and the Peak Master of Wood Peak, Qi Yu. Both fragments fell into Qi Yu's hands, and he had given them to Duan Ling Tian.

At that moment, Duan Ling Tian, with two Concept fragments in his hands, was comprehending both types of Concept simultaneously while cultivating the mental cultivation method of the eighth form of Nine Dragons War Sovereign Technique, the Roving Dragon Form.

"En?"

Shortly after, Duan Ling Tian discovered a problem.

When he was cultivating, he realized that the Wind Concept was improving unnaturally. The improvement was beyond his expectation, it was improving way faster than it ever had before.

In the beginning, he thought he was enlightened. But soon, he realized it was not enlightenment.

It was because he fully mastered the mental cultivation method of the eighth form of Nine Dragons War Sovereign Technique, the Roving Dragon Form. The Origin Energy in his body was circulating according to the mental cultivation method of the eighth form of Nine Dragons War Sovereign Technique, the Roving Dragon Form. Hence, it was easier for him to comprehend the Wind Concept.

Now, he was certain that the eighth form of Nine Dragons War Sovereign Technique, the Roving Dragon Form would help him in comprehending the Wind Concept apart from being able to fuel Fire Concept with Wind Concept.

'This isn't noted in the Rebirth Martial Emperor's memories...

Although he created the Nine Dragons War Sovereign Technique with the experiences from his two lives, he never had the chance to actually cultivate it,' Duan Ling Tian murmured in his heart before he fully immersed himself in his cultivation.

His cultivation rapidly increased. The Wind Concept and Thunder Concept slowly improved too.

Boom!

After some time, a sound reverberated from Duan Ling Tian's body. The Origin Energy led by the potent medicinal efficacy of the Rebirth Pill broke through the bottleneck toward the Second Level Void Transformation Concept.

With his breakthrough, his cultivation reached the Second Level Void Transformation Concept!

Simultaneously, the potent medicinal efficacy of the Rebirth Pill returned to Duan Ling Tian's Dantian. As for the medicinal efficacy of Tricolor Pill, it had long been exhausted.

It was impossible for Duan Ling Ting to break through the bottleneck with the medicinal efficacy of the Tricolor Pill alone.

Duan Ling Tian opened his eyes, and there was a flash in his eyes.

'I think I'll break through the Wind Concept and Thunder Concept soon... It's been quite a fruitful trip.' As Duan Ling Tian felt the change in his Origin energy, he tried to detect the advancement of his Wind Concept and Thunder Concept. A satisfied smile appeared on his face instantly.

'With these four Ninth Level Concept Fragments, I don't have to go and search for Concept fragments.' Two Concept fragments suddenly appeared in Duan Ling Tian's hands.

It was a Ninth Level Earth Concept Fragment, and a Ninth Level Sword Concept Fragment. Duan Ling Tian weighed the fragments in his hands as the smile on his face brightened. "Senior brother Wei, there's a Ninth Level Concept Fragment!" A short and harsh voice rang out and clearly entered Duan Ling Tian's ears. He immediately took note of the situation and kept all four Concept fragments.

Meanwhile, a cold voice with a hint of greed sounded, "I saw it, four Ninth Level Concept Fragments."

Duan Ling Tian hurriedly stood up and immediately saw two young men in the cave. Their eyes were locked on him.

Among the two young men, the leaner one stood in front. Behind him, to the right, stood a hideous young man.

"Boy... Don't have to hide it... We saw you weighing the four Ninth Level Concept fragments earlier." The hideous young man looked at Duan Ling Tian and grinned. However, his grin was extremely ugly, it was uglier than crying. His voice was also ghastly.

He was the owner of the first voice earlier.

Duan Ling Tian raised his eyebrow after listening to the hideous young man, but he ignored him.

At the same time, he let out his Spiritual Force and tried to probe their cultivation.

"Haha... Senior brother Wei, look at him! He's scared silly." When he saw there was no movement from Duan Ling Tian, the hideous young man laughed crazily. "Senior brother Wei, I'll take care of this boy... After killing him, I just want the Ninth Level Fire Concept Fragment, the rest is yours." The hideous young man sounded humble when he addressed the lean young man.

"En..."

The man who was addressed as Senior brother Wei nodded, he did not look Duan Ling Tian in the eye since the beginning as though he did not take Duan Ling Tian seriously at all.

Naturally, it also was because Duan Ling Tian only looked about twenty-five years old. It was easy to underestimate a man who was so young.

The hideous young man brightened when he heard the lean young man's response. A mace appeared as he raised his hands, his Origin Energy raged, and it was intertwined with a flame.

"Boy, it's your luck to be able to die in my hands!" As the hideous young man looked at Duan Ling Tian, he flew out as fast as a cannonball. A vast flame surrounded his whole body, and he smashed the mace toward Duan Ling Tian.

Boom!Boom!Boom!Boom!

• • •

Wherever he passed, with a swing of the flame-wrapped mace, the airflow compressed and exploded, causing bursts of thunderous explosions.

When air exploded, the waves of heat resulted in gusts of wind blowing in all directions. The temperature in the cave rose as a result.

A moment later, the hideous young man appeared before Duan Ling Tian. He raised the flame-wrapped mace and smashed it toward Duan Ling Tian. It looked like a shooting star.

At the same time, more than five hundred ancient horned dragons' silhouettes appeared at the space above him and charged toward Duan Ling Tian with their claws and fangs bared with a great momentum.

First Level Void Transformation Concept!

First Level Advanced Fire Concept!

Grade two spirit weapon!

This was the hideous young man's ability.

Pa!!

He thought he could kill Duan Ling Tian with one move, but he realized his attack was halted mid-air instead.

He witnessed an unforgettable scene as he stared forward.

Oh, God!

What did he see?! The purple-clad young man whom he had underestimated all these while, raised his hand and grabbed the mace. Keeping in mind that his attack was the equivalent of more than five hundred ancient horned dragons' strength!

"How... How is that possible?!" The hideous young man's face changed dramatically before he focused his gaze and tried to draw back his mace that was caught by the purple-clad young man.

In the space above the hideous young man's head, more than five hundred ancient horned dragons' silhouettes were in a state of unrest. Even with his full strength, his mace was still in the hands of his opponent as if it was rooted there.

Chapter 964: Duan Ling Tian's Strength

Duan Ling Tian had already probed the hideous young man's level of cultivation before the attack began. Duan Ling Tian did not feel threatened at all.

When Duan Ling Tian saw the hideous young man's greed for the Ninth Level Concept Fragment and how he attacked him, Duan Ling Tian laughed instead of being angry. A sneer hung on the corner of his mouth.

Although his opponent's attacking mace was equivalent to the strength of more than five hundred ancient horned dragons' strength and bore down menacingly like a meteor falling down, there was no fear in Duan Ling Tian.

The strength that was equivalent to more than five hundred ancient horned dragons was nothing to him.

He casually lifted his arm and caught his opponent's mace effortlessly.

"You..." When Duan Ling Tian grabbed the mace, that hideous young man's face changed dramatically. Duan Ling Tian made another move when the hideous young man failed in drawing back his mace.

Hu! Duan Ling Tian waved his hand that was still holding on to the mace, he easily picked up the mace along with his opponent who was still grabbing on to it.

In the next moment, a daunting strength grew in Duan Ling Tian's hands as it rolled out in waves.

"No!!" The hideous young man's face changed when he saw that. He hurriedly dropped the mace in his hands and tried to retreat.

At that moment, the purple-clad young man seemed like a God of Slaughter in his eyes, a God of Slaughter who could kill him at any time.

'Bang!' As a loud bang sounded, a khaki energy entangled in green wind rolled off in waves as it drowned the hideous young man and killed him in just a blink of an eye.

The young man's body continued flying like an arrow that was shot out even after he was killed.

Pong!! The body hit the wall of the cave in the distance, and all that was left behind was a pool of dazzling blood. He was dead.

Hua!

Meanwhile, the Heaven and Earth Phenomenon formed in the space above Duan Ling Tian. A total of seven hundred lifelike ancient horned dragons' silhouette slowly appeared.

"Nice." Duan Ling Tian let out a breath, there was a burst of satisfaction in his heart.

Previously, he merely utilized two types of Concepts. The Second Level Advance Wind Concept, and the Ninth Level Intermediate Earth Concept. However, the two Concepts merely amounted to four hundred ancient horned dragons' strength.

Therefore, apart from the two Concepts, he also exerted the Second Level Void Transformation's Origin energy that had just undergone a transformation.

Once Duan Ling Tian exerted the Second Level Void Transformation's Origin Energy, he experienced a whole new feeling. It was like the blood in his body was boiling.

"We've underestimated you." A cold voice spread timely into Duan Ling Tian's ears.

Duan Ling Tian heard it and looked over. His gaze landed on the lean young man stood nearby; the one addressed as senior brother by the hideous young man.

After Duan Ling Tian killed the hideous young man, the lean young man was not angry or sad. He did not even express a hint of

emotion.

It was as though the one who died in Duan Ling Tian's hands was not his junior brother but a person unrelated to him.

'He didn't flee?' While the lean young man's cold gaze stared at him, Duan Ling Tian was startled.

Earlier, he had demonstrated a strength equivalent to seven hundred ancient horned dragons' strength without even using his spirit weapon.

'This Second Level Void Transformation martial artist witnessed my fight, and he's not even intimidated?' When Duan Ling Tian probed the hideous young man's cultivation base, he also discovered the lean young man's cultivation base. It was at the Second Level Void Transformation.

Based on his knowledge, Second Level Void Transformation martial artists usually comprehended First or Second Level Void Transformation Concept. Without utilizing spirit weapons, a person who mastered the Second Level Void Transformation Concept, including his full Origin Energy, could only exert six hundred ancient horned dragons' strength at most.

It was nowhere close to his seven hundred ancient horned dragons' strength!

That was what confused Duan Ling Tian.

Why would the lean young man stay confident after he had witnessed Duan Ling Tian's strength?

Hua!

Shortly after, Duan Ling Tian got his answer when he saw the Heaven and Earth Energy forming the Heaven and Earth Phenomenon on the space above the lean young man.

Origin Energy raged around the lean young man's body and transformed into jets of khaki energies. It was a perfect

combination of Earth Concept and Origin Energy.

Subsequently, the khaki energy surrounding the lean young man's body seemed to resonate with the cave. The color deepened as a devastating aura exuded out.

Simultaneously, in the space above the lean young man, three hundred ancient horned dragons' silhouettes appeared. Then another four hundred ancient horned dragons' silhouettes appeared. Finally, another two hundred ancient horned dragons' silhouettes appeared.

A Second Level Void Transformation martial artist who fully exerted his Origin Energy would generate three hundred ancient horned dragons' strength.

A Third Level Advanced Earth Concept was equivalent to four hundred ancient horned dragons' strength. Earth Concept with the aid of Earth Energy gave an additional fifty percent that amounted to two hundred ancient horned dragons' strength.

Even without using a spirit weapon, the lean young man's strength was equivalent to nine hundred ancient horned dragons. It undoubtedly defeated the strength that Duan Ling Tian had demonstrated that only amounted to seven hundred ancient horned dragons' strength.

'I see...' When Duan Ling Tian saw the lean young man's strength, he understood why he was so confident.

His opponent had comprehended a Third Level Void Transformation Concept which was the Earth Concept.

Nevertheless, Duan Ling Tian's expression was not affected by the lean young man's strength. Instead, he was fascinated as he muttered, "Interesting."

At that moment, the lean young man glared at Duan Ling Tian with his cold gaze. He took a step forward and shouted, "Die!"

As he stepped forward, a three-foot-long blade appeared in his

hand.

The khaki energy rushed into the three-foot-long blade from his body, and it quivered as if it had been brought to life. A crisp sword cry sounded.

Hua! Instantly, more than 250 ancient horned dragons' silhouettes appeared beside the nine hundred ancient horned dragons' silhouettes at the space above the lean young man.

It was apparent that the three-foot-long blade in his hand was a grade two spirit sword. With Second Level Void Transformation Origin Energy as the foundation, it amplified the strength to more than 230 ancient horned dragons' strength.

It meant that Grade two spirit sword in the lean young man's hands contained the strength of more than 1130 ancient horned dragons' strength!

Xiu! In the split second when the Grade two spirit sword let out a sword cry, the lean young man moved. He flashed by and stayed close to Duan Ling Tian like a shadow.

If Duan Ling Tian had not broken through to the Second Level Void Transformation, he might have panicked and found it difficult to match the lean young man's strength.

However, the current Duan Ling Tian was not nervous, his face was as calm as water.

Hu! A sword suddenly materialized in his hands. The sword exuded a devastating aura. It was the Quasi Royal Grade Spirit Sword.

Following that, the Origin Energy on Duan Ling Tian soared and transformed into a burst of khaki energy. Similar to the lean young man's khaki energy, it resonated with the cave.

On the surface of the khaki energy, there were bolts of dark purple lightning and jets of green wind that exuded a wave of stunning aura. The khaki energy intertwined with lightning and green wind hastily rushed into Quasi Royal Grade Spirit Sword. It caused the sword qi on the Quasi Royal Grade Spirit Sword to surge, and a sword cry sounded.

All of that happened in a blink of an eye.

As Heaven and Earth Energy began to stir at the space above Duan Ling Tian, the lean young man had already appeared before Duan Ling Tian with his sword. The distance between them was not more than a stone throw away.

Xiu! He stabbed with his sword, and a sharp and extremely cold sword qi raged. It was like a cold wind was blowing on Duan Ling Tian, it immediately caused him to squint his eyes.

Sword Drawing Arts! Duan Ling Tian lifted his sword without hesitation. Like a flash of lightning, the sword blocked in front of him.

Jiang! At that exact moment, the grade two spirit sword in the lean young man's hand clashed with the Quasi Royal Grade Spirit Sword in Duan Ling Tian's hand, the tip of the sword on the body of the Quasi Royal Grade Spirit Sword.

"Hng!" A cold snort laced with a hint of fear could be heard. The lean young man retreated quickly after he failed to strike, and he flew far away.

The whole movement was as smooth as flowing water, it was clean and neat.

Hua!

Then, the Heaven and Earth Phenomenon in the space above Duan Ling Tian finally formed. The lean young man's eyes narrowed in shock after he saw the scene before him.

There were 1250 ancient horned dragons' silhouettes hovered in the space about Duan Ling Tian, poised to attack. It gave off a huge sense of oppression. The lean young man quickly came back to his senses. His face changed, and he said disbelievingly, "Impossible!"

"Nothing is impossible." Duan Ling Tian moved in that split second when the lean young man's face changed. He moved like a ghost as he headed toward the lean young man. The Quasi Royal Grade Spirit Sword by his side like a shadow.

'Run!' Faced with the incoming Duan Ling Tian and the 1250 ancient horned dragons' silhouettes above him, the lean young man's changed again. He had lost the will to fight and turned to flee.

"Trying to flee?" Duan Ling Tian laughed when he saw what was happening.

Xiu! The Quasi Royal Grade Spirit Sword in his hand shot toward his opponent.

Nine Dragons' Radiant Flash! Raging power surged and turned into three khaki divine dragons surrounded by lightning and green wind.

The three divine dragons' eyes flashed, and six extremely radiant flashes shot out.

Xiu!Xiu!Xiu!

...

The six extremely radiant flashes shot across so quickly that it was beyond shocking!

However, the lean young man had a quick reflex. He turned as Duan Ling Tian attacked, he had intended to temporarily defend himself with his Concept and the grade two spirit sword in his hands.

Jiang! One of the extreme radiant flashes was blocked, but his grade two spirit sword fell from his hands. His hands cracked and blood gushed out.

However, he did not have the chance to stop the bleeding because there were five fatal and bloody wounds across his body, each at his vital organs.

Chapter 965: Eighth Level Monarch Stage Wind Profundity Fragment

Puff! Puff! Puff!

...

Five bloody arrows shot through the lean young man's vital organs. His shimmering bright eyes dimmed as he trembled and then faltered.

Boom! He was dead, and his body eventually fell and slammed on the ground.

At the same time, the three khaki divine dragons surrounded by purple lightning and green energy dissipated in the air as if they were never there.

Duan Ling Tian kept the Quasi Royal Grade Spirit Sword he was holding in his hand. His eyes gleamed as it fell on the lean young man's body. He continued muttering, "I would not be a match for him if I did not make a breakthrough in my cultivation and progress to the Second Level Void Transformation."

Duan Ling Tian was certain of that.

Naturally, Duan Ling Tian was not afraid even after realizing that.

Even if he was no match for his opponent, or if he was incapable of escaping, the one who would die would not be him.

It was because he had two amulets from his father only in name, Duan Ru Feng. It was not difficult to kill a Second Level Void Transformation martial artist.

He had no fear because of that.

He deemed it worthy to waste an amulet to save his life.

After all, nothing was more important than one's life.

Duan Ling Tian kept the Spatial Rings and spirit weapons from the hideous young man and the lean young man into his own Spatial Ring. He guessed inwardly. 'These two people... should also be from the second-rate forces.'

If they were not from the second-rate forces, they would not be so strong. That was how Duan Ling Tian arrived at his conclusion.

"Their strength... should be at ranked at the top few places among all the young disciples from all the forces." Duan Ling Tian guessed again.

'Now, I should start looking for the person who obtained the Tricolour Fruits... If a single person obtained all three of them, that person should only be able to consume one spirit fruit at the most.' As the idea appeared, Duan Ling Tian began a thorough search in all directions from the center of the cave to find the person who had obtained the Tricolour Fruits.

If he managed to locate that person, he would be presented with a precious opportunity if that person was alone.

'If I manage to obtain two Tricolour Fruits, the medicinal efficacy will be sufficient to trigger the Rebirth Pill's potent medicinal efficacy... Then I'll able to advance to the Fifth Level Void Transformation.' Duan Ling Tian was fairly certain of it.

He understood the Tricolor Fruits' medicinal efficacies very well due to the Rebirth Martial Emperor's memories. The Tricolour Fruits were enough for him to achieve the Fourth Level Void Transformation!

With the addition of the Rebirth Pill's medicinal efficacy, he was almost a hundred percent certain he would be able to advance to the Fifth Level Void Transformation or even the Sixth Level Void Transformation.

'Fifth Level Void Transformation...Sixth Level Void Transformation...' Just the thought of it made Duan Ling Tian

excited, and his feet moved faster and faster.

'I sincerely hope all of the Tricolour Fruits were obtained by the same person and that he had indeed found a hidden spot nearby to cultivate so that I'll have a chance to find him and obtain the remaining spirit fruits.' Duan Ling Tian prayed as he searched thoroughly in all directions.

On the other hand, in a hidden cave not too far away from the damp cave, a person was sitting cross-legged inside as he silently cultivated in a dark and gloomy cove. The cove was situated inside one of the grooves at the top corner of the hidden cave. It was extremely hidden.

Most people would miss it while passing through.

Judging from the looks of the groove, it was not weathered so it was very likely that it was artificially made not too long ago.

Suddenly, a breath was heard in the dark and gloomy cove.

A voice filled with happiness and excitement sounded, "I finally managed to advance to the First Level Void Transformation!" The owner of the voice was none other than Zi Shang who had obtained three spirit fruits a month ago.

One month ago, Zi Shang tried to find a remote location to cultivate after obtaining the three spirit fruits. However, he failed to find a suitable place even after he looked for a long time. Eventually, he found this hidden cave and opened up a cove in an inconspicuous corner on top of the cave. The cove was against the light, thus there was no light in it.

Unless someone outside purposefully and thoroughly searched, it would be almost impossible to discover the cave Zi Shang opened.

Hence, Zi Shang had been cultivating in it with a peaceful mind.

After a month, he finally absorbed the medicinal efficacy of one of the spirit fruits and managed to advance from Seventh Level Void Interpretation to First Level Void Transformation.

"Quickly eat and absorb the other two... That's the only way you'll be able to achieve anything in the Martial Emperor's secret treasure! Or else, you won't be able to defeat the leaders of the young disciples from second-rate forces even with my soul in you," a gloomy, hoarse and ancient voice echoed in Zi Shang's mind, reminding Zi Shang of the situation at hand.

"Yes, Elder Ghost," Zi Shang answered respectfully when he heard the voice. He hurriedly took out another spirit fruit and ate it without delay.

Shortly after, he was once again focused on his cultivation, improving rapidly.

The current Zi Shang did not realize that his mortal enemy, Duan Ling Tian, was thoroughly searching for him from the damp cave where he found the three spirit fruits.

Duan Ling Tian could arrive at any given time.

Martial Emperor's secret treasure, in a cave as wide as a Martial Arts Practice Hall. Crushed stones were scattered all over the ground as it accumulated there.

Among them, there were green fragments. There were hundreds of them, and all of it were Wind Concept fragments.

Three groups of people were in a standoff in the cave.

At that moment, most of their gazes were on the exquisite box mounted in the center on top of the cave. It was obvious that everyone was interested and yearned for the treasures in it.

A red-clad young man who stood beside a tall and strong young man took a deep breath and asked softly, "Daniu, are you confident?"

The third man, who was slightly older stood aside. He looked at the other two groups with a hint of panic in his gaze.

"We'll have to try." The tall and strong youth was Huang Daniu,

the disciple from Wood Peak of Five Element Sect. His face was solemn as he stayed guarded.

As for the ones who stood beside him, they were disciples of Blade Sect, Su Li, and Zhang Shou Yong. All of them met and became friends because of the same person.

"Since everyone wants the treasure... Let's battle for it," one of the groups shouted. They moved forward and flew toward another group.

In just a second, three individuals from the former group easily overpowered the duo in the latter group. One of them was even in a life or death situation.

"Oh, no!" Huang Daniu and his two companions did not expect that three individuals from the former group to be so strong. Their strength surpassed the duo and also surpassed the three of them.

The three of them could imagine what was waiting for them once the duo was killed.

"We'll help you!" Huang Daniu and his companions flew out and joined the battle. They helped the duo resist the group who was stronger than them. It caused that group to be at a disadvantage.

'Heng' Soon after, a blue-clad young man from the former group, who had not shown his strength, exerted his real strength. Ninth Level Void Interpretation with Ninth Level Intermediate Earth Concept! That turned the battle around.

The three of them immediately became evenly matched with the five of them on Huang Daniu's side.

However, Huang Daniu's side slowly slipped into a disadvantageous position since the other party had a Ninth Level Void Interpretation martial artist who had comprehended the Ninth Level Intermediate Earth Concept.

"Damn!" Huang Daniu and the others' faces took on an extremely ghastly expression.

Finally, they were forced to retreat further. They look at the three-person group from afar, their faces filled with discontentment.

However, even if they were discontented, nothing could be done because they were no match for their opponents.

"Heng" The strongest youth among the three-person group glanced at them with disdain. He then flew upward to retrieve the exquisite box mounted at the center of the cave.

Under Huang Daniu and the others' envious gazes, he opened the exquisite box.

A piece of fragment shimmering with green energy appeared before their eyes.

"That's..." Huang Daniu stared. "A Concept Fragment? But it doesn't look like one...Concept Fragment doesn't shimmer with energy, right?"

"Is it a Profundity Fragment?" Zhang Shou Yong swallowed his saliva and guessed with a shocked expression.

Profundity Fragment?

Zhang Shou Yong's speculation stunned Huang Daniu and Su Li into silence.

"It's a Profundity Fragment," said one of the duo who stood beside Zhang Shou Yong.

At that moment, his eyes were trained on the fragment shimmering with green energy inside the exquisite box, his gaze seemed to be rooted to it.

"Congratulation, young one... This Eighth Level Monarch Stage Wind Profundity Fragment is now yours." A familiar but strange voice was heard just as Zhang Shou Yong and his two companions wondered how the young man beside them from unknown forces recognized the Profundity Fragment.

The voice spread from the opened exquisite box. It was extremely penetrating, and it transmitted far away.

"Ei-eighth Level Monarch Stage Profundity Fragment?!" Huang Daniu's pupils shrank. He looked at the young man who was holding the exquisite box with a killing intent. However, helplessness soon showed on his face.

His opponent, like him, had comprehended Earth Concept and could draw support from Earth Energy. However, his opponent was also a Ninth Level Void Interpretation Martial Artist. Hence, he was no match for his opponent.

"Damn! It's an Eighth Level Monarch Stage Profundity Fragment!" The duo's faces, who stood beside Huang Daniu and his two companions, changed dramatically.

Chapter 966: Another Exquisite Box!

At this moment, both Su Li and Zhang Shou Yong were completely stunned as well.

A Profundity Fragment was enough to make them go crazy from surprise.

It did not matter if the Profundity Fragment was low level, it was birthed from a Martial Monarch's body after all.

To them, a Martial Monarch was an existence that only existed in rumors and was out of their reach.

At this moment, the voice of the Martial Emperor who left the secret treasure behind entered their ears and reminded them that this Profundity Fragment was no ordinary Monarch Stage Profundity Fragment but an Eighth Level Monarch Stage Profundity Fragment instead.

An Eighth Level Monarch Stage Profundity Fragment!

There were a total of nine levels for the Monarch Stage Profundity Fragment, and each level was stronger than the one before.

The First Level Monarch Stage Profundity Fragment could help a Ninth Level Void Transformation martial artist who had comprehended the Ninth Level Void Transformation Concept to break through to the Martial Monarch Stage and become a Martial Monarch powerhouse.

Apart from being able to help a Ninth Level Void Transformation martial artist in obtaining a Martial Monarch Stage cultivation base, the Eighth Level Monarch Stage Profundity Fragment also allowed one to raise the Profundity that one had comprehended to the Eighth Level in just a flash after one made a breakthrough to the Martial Monarch Stage.

One could easily imagine just how precious this Eighth Level

Monarch Stage Profundity Fragment was.

The young man's gaze was fixed on the Eighth Level Monarch Stage Wind Profundity since the beginning. As he lifted up the exquisite box, he could not suppress the laughter that rose up from his chest. "Hahahahaha..."

His laughter quickly died down as he stared solemnly at Huang Daniu and the four others, their faces were ghastly pale. Finally, his gaze landed on the two young men standing beside Huang Daniu. It was Su Li and Zhang Shou Yong.

"The people from Anicca Sect are all trash!" The young man exclaimed unhurriedly, his tone was derisive.

"YOU!!" The two Anicca Sect's disciples' faces darkened when they were mocked. They were so angry that they were speechless for a long time.

The Anicca Sect?!

The moment they heard the young man's words, Huang Daniu and the other two were momentarily taken aback. They did not think the people they helped out earlier were actually disciples from Anicca Sect. No wonder the both of them were so strong.

"Even the people from the second-rate forces are here?" Huang Daniu and the other two exchanged glances with each other. For a second, they could see the shock in each other's eyes.

Although they knew that the Martial Emperor's secret treasure had other entrances, they had no idea what kind of people would enter from the entrances.

Presently, it seemed like even the people from the second-rate forces were here as well.

"The people from Anicca Sect are trash! Izumo Sect's people are just the same as well!" Without warning, an aloof voice echoed inside the cavern.

A figure appeared soundlessly before everyone's eyes.

It was a black-clad young man with an evil face and a cold look. His eyes appeared lifeless yet it contained a murderous intent that gave off an invisible sense of pressure.

Nobody knew when the black-clad young man appeared.

It was only when the black-clad young man began talking that everyone, including Huang Daniu, noticed him.

Colors drained from the face of the Izumo Sect's disciple who was holding the exquisite box. He glared at the black-clad young man with dread in his eyes as he asked, "Who are you?!"

"Dead man, there's no need for you to know who I am," the blackclad young man spoke again. His voice remained cold. Before anybody could figure out what was happening, he morphed and disappeared before everyone's eyes.

"Where is he?" Huang Daniu, Su Li, and Zhang Shou Yong were still bewildered when they suddenly saw something flashed past their eyes.

Wham!

The sound of a heavy thud reverberated.

In the next second, they saw the Izumo Sect's disciple, who was holding the exquisite box that contained the Eighth Level Monarch Stage Wind Profundity Fragment, suddenly dropped to the ground without warning. There were no signs of injury on his body at all.

However, everyone, including Huang Daniu, could see that he was no longer breathing. It was apparent that he had been killed.

The black-clad young man stood beside the Izumo Sect's disciple with a calm expression as though the Izumo Sect's disciple's death had nothing to do with him at all. Nobody knew when but the exquisite box that was originally in the Izumo Sect's disciple's hands was already in his hands. The Eighth Level Monarch Stage

Wind Profundity Fragment was constantly gleaming with waves of blue chi.

"That's fast!"

When Huang Daniu and the others looked at the young man in black again, their eyes were narrowed in shock.

From the very beginning until now, they did not have any clue at all in regards to when the black-clad young man killed that Izumo Sect's disciple. That person's speed was incredibly fast.

'Even a martial artist at the First or Second Level Void Transformation would not be so fast right?' Huang Daniu thought to himself.

Horror quickly dawned on Huang Daniu's face. This was because he noticed the black-clad young man's cold eyes began looking at them after he put away that exquisite box in his hands.

Killing intent flashed out for a moment.

At that moment, everyone, including Huang Daniu, was immediately on their guards as though they were facing their mortal enemy.

At this moment, the black-clad young man opened his mouth to say, "If any of you can resist and survive my first blow, you may live." His voice was cold and detached, yet it made Huang Daniu and the others seized in panic.

Before they could figure out what was happening, the black-clad young man had already lifted his right leg and stomped on the ground like lightning. It was as though he had a great hatred toward the ground.

WHAM!!

When the black-clad young man stomped his foot, a loud sound reverberated in the air. The airwave was so terrifying that colors drained from the faces of Huang Daniu and the others.

Crack!

In the next instance, all of them could see that countless cracks began to spread in all directions from the place where the blackclad young man's foot landed. It looked like a giant spider web.

The numerous cracks that spread out contained seven waves of appalling force that fanned out along with the cracks, and it rolled toward the seven of them, including Huang Daniu.

"Damn it!" Horror dawned on Huang Daniu and Zhang Shou Yong instantly. They were martial artists who had comprehended the Earth Concept so their senses toward it were very keen.

They could clearly sense that these seven forces were Earth Concept! Moreover, it was Advance Earth Concept, and its level was not low.

The moment horror dawned on their faces, they could only adjust and control the Earth Concept they had comprehended hastily to strike a resonance with the Earth in an attempt to resist the overbearing Earth Concept.

When Huang Daniu made his move, he yelled out to remind Su Li, "Su Li, FLY!"

The instance Su Li heard the speech from that black-clad young man, he was already tensed and on his guard. When he heard Huang Daniu's sudden cry, he rushed up into the air without wasting any more time.

Boom! boom! boom! boom!

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Almost immediately after Su Li leaped into the sky, the sound of explosions filled the air.

All Su Li could feel was a terrifying wave of impact that pushed him to the top of the cavern. It caused him to hit the top of the cavern with a 'thud' without any warning, and it made him dizzy. As for Huang Daniu and Zhang Shou Yong, they did not suffer much from the impact and only spat out a mouthful of blood because they managed to cast their Earth Concepts in a timely manner and resonated with the Earth.

As for the two remaining Izumo Sect's disciples and the two Anicca Sect's disciples, they were not as lucky as the other three.

Four of them exploded, and all that was left was the remains of their bodies and blood that covered the entire ground.

"You guys are lucky," the aloof voice echoed once again and entered Huang Daniu and the others' ears.

It was the black-clad young man's voice.

The moment the words left his mouth, the black-clad young man disappeared before Huang Daniu and the other two people's eyes without a trace.

"Damn it! Just wait until my strength is better than his, I won't let him get away!" Huang Daniu fumed.

Su Li finally managed to stabilize himself and descended from the air. When he saw the five large pits that appeared on the cavern's vast ground, he asked with widened eyes, "What happened?"

"That guy used his Earth Concept to attack us earlier. Other than Zhang Shou Yong and I, who could communicate with the Earth with our Earth Concept in time to obtain shelter from the Earth and resist his Earth Concept, the Earth Concept that swept toward you guys exploded," Huang Daniu explained with a hint of dread in his voice.

"I was scared to death earlier. It was a good thing that you, Daniu, reminded Su Li in time or else, he would most likely end up like them." Fear still lingered upon Zhang Shou Yong's face as he looked at the remains of the bodies on the blood covered ground.

"Daniu, thank you," Su Li expressed his gratitude to Huang Daniu. It was indeed due to the reminder from Huang Daniu

earlier that he managed to soar up into the air promptly and escaped the exploding Earth Concept.

"You don't have to thank me, I merely reminded you unconsciously. What's most important is that you managed to react in time and soared up into the sky. Otherwise, it would be hard for you to escape this death even with my reminder," Huang Daniu proclaimed as he shook his head.

When he reached the end of his sentence, his face turned grave before he continued again, "Who the hell was that guy? He didn't even see us as living beings! Even after he obtained the Profundity Fragment, he still wanted to kill us!"

The moment Su Li and Zhang Shou Yong heard his words, their faces turned grave as well.

With just a few words, the black-clad young man had taken control of their destinies.

That feeling left them with a very bitter taste in their mouths.

In the Martial Emperor's secret treasure, in another cavern that was a great distance away from the cavern that Huang Daniu and the two others were in, a series of loud sound echoed from the cavern. It only died down and became silent after a very long time.

Two young men were standing inside the cavern.

The ground around them was fully covered in stones. Hundreds of blue fragments were scattered among the stones as well. They were none other than the Water Concept Fragments.

If Duan Ling Tian was here, he would definitely be able to identify the two young men in just a glance as the two Sun Moon Sect's young disciples who survived previously.

Hu Lin and Zhang Ping.

"Hu Lin, there are so many puppets guarding the treasure here. I'm sure it must be something extraordinary right?" If one was to

look at the top of in the center of the cavern, one would see an exquisite box embedded there. It was obvious that some extraordinary treasure was contained in there.

"Why don't you take it down and have a look?" Hu Lin answered indifferently. With a flash of his figure, he proceeded to remove the exquisite box.

Whoosh!

At this moment, a combination of extreme coldness and heat suddenly spread through the air. The contradictory combination caused Hu Lin to stop in his track. Both Hu Lin and Zhang Ping's faces turned grave immediately.

In the next second, a figure appeared before their eyes.

"It's you!" Hu Lin and Zhang Ping's face turned a shade darker when they saw the young man before them.

This young man was no stranger to them.

It was none other than the person leading the group of Emotion Severing Sect's disciples — Zhang Yan.

Chapter 967: Zi Shang Is Still Alive!

"Ah, so it's you two." With an aloof expression, Zhang Yan stared at the two Sun Moon Sect's disciples before he replied nonchalantly, "The two of you are really lucky. You actually stumbled upon a Profundity Fragment huh?"

Profundity Fragment?

The moment they heard Zhang Yan's words, both Hu Lin and Zhang Ping could not help but narrow their eyes immediately, their face had a stunned expression as well.

After a moment, Hu Lin returned to his senses first. The first thing he did was to stare at the exquisite box embedded in the top center of the cavern before he muttered to himself, "You mean the treasure contained inside the exquisite box is actually a Profundity Fragment?"

In the face of Hu Lin's inquiry, Zhang Yan said, "It has nothing to do with you anymore whether the Profundity Fragment is inside the box or not!" His voice was tranquil and as bleak as harsh winter, there were no emotions in it at all.

Zhang Ping had just returned to his senses, and he unconsciously asked, "Why?"

"This is because a dead man doesn't need to know so many 'whys'!" Zhang Yan spoke with his calm voice again. The moment the words left his mouth, he had already made his move. He lifted both of his hands and bent his arms back as his back quivered for a moment

Both of his arms and back were pulled taut like a strong bow.

The quivering back was like a bow that was pulled tautly. Slightly trembling, it looked like it was about to launch an arrow at any given time.

"What a shameless boast!" Upon hearing Zhang Yan's words,

Zhang Ping finally regained his full senses. Hu Lin, on the other hand, snorted as the Origin Energy rolling from his body swept out while his Concepts followed closely like shadows.

Swish!

In the next second, another three-foot-long blade appeared in his hands. It was none other than the grade two spirit sword that he brought along with him.

Whoosh!

Hu Lin's eyes were cold and distant. As though he had transformed into a hurricane, he slashed his knife at Zhang Yan without any reservation.

The Heaven and Earth Energy whirled on the sky and gathered a total of over 600 silhouettes of ancient horned dragons that bared their claws and fangs at Zhang Yan in an overbearing manner.

The First Level Void Transformation!

Second Level Advance Sword Concept!

As the most powerful person among the current Sun Moon Sect's disciples, this was Hu Lin's real strength.

Swish!

Just as Hu Lin made his move, Zhang Ping regained his senses as well. A grade two spirit saber appeared in his hands out of thin air, and his Origin Energy indulged in a wanton massacre as his Concept entered it.

Without any hesitation, he joined forces with Hu Lin to charge at Zhang Yan.

There was a total of over 500 silhouettes of ancient horned dragons above Zhang Ping's head, it was just 100 silhouettes fewer than Hu Lin.

The First Level Void Transformation!

The First Level Advance Saber Concept!

Zhang Ping, the second strongest person among the current Sun Moon Sect's disciples, possessed a strength that was second only to Hu Lin.

Hu Lin and Zhang Ping swept out toward Zhang Yan, one holding a saber while the other was holding a sword, and aimed at his vital point with no mercy.

Zhang Yan's palms were wide opened, and his arms were pulled back. His back that was like a strong bow trembled slightly as the grade two spirit weapon gloves on his hand had an additional wave of blue flame around them.

The hot and cold aura coexisted together. The contradictory combination compressed the air flow in the air and set off a series of spontaneous explosions one after another.

Whoosh!

Just as the grade two spirit sword and grade two spirit saber on Hu Lin and Zhang Ping's hands charged toward Zhang Yan, the Heaven and Earth Energy above Zhang Yan finally gathered to become the Heaven and Earth Phenomenon.

978 silhouettes of ancient horned dragons descended in a spiral as though they were poised to attack, it gave off an extremely fearful pressure.

"NO!!" Initially, Hu Lin and Zhang Ping were filled with confidence and thought they could kill Zhang Yan, but horror instantly dawned on them the moment they saw the Heaven and Earth Phenomenon appearing above Zhang Yan's head. Zhang Ping even cried out in shock.

Boom! Boom!

Just as Hu Lin and Zhang Ping's faces dramatically changed, and Zhang Ping let out a shriek of terror, Zhang Yan finally made his move. Both of his arms that were pulled taut like a bow trembled for a moment, and his back stopped quivering immediately. Both palms that contained soaring blue flames blasted out swiftly and shrouded both Hu Lin and Zhang Ping as it went head to head with both of their overbearing attacks.

Between Hu Lin and Zhang Ping, Hu Lin was the stronger of the two.

However, Hu Lin's power only amounted to the strength of over 600 ancient horned dragons even when he unleashed his full power.

In the face of Zhang Yan's crushing attack that contained the strength of over 900 ancient horned dragons, one could easily imagine the result of this amount of power.

Boom! Boom!

In just a flash of a lightning, both Hu Lin and Zhang Ping were slaughtered by Zhang Yan without any mishaps.

After the two of them were blasted to death, their bodies were thrown off with a force that was not diminished. Like an arrow that was shot out from the bow, they smashed on the cavern wall at the distance and stirred up the dust.

Since then, all of Sun Moon Sect's disciples who entered the Martial Emperor's secret treasure were completely annihilated.

After killing Hu Lin and Zhang Ping, Zhang Yan casually soared up into the sky like nothing had happened and took down the exquisite box that was embedded at the top center of the cavern.

He was in no rush to open the box.

Through a strange coincidence, his gaze unconsciously landed on the hundreds of Water Concept Fragments that were mixed with the stone gravels on the cavern ground.

'According to my previous experience, the Profundity Fragment

that's contained in this box must be the Water Profundity Fragment.' Zhang Yan's breathing turned rapid immediately the moment he thought of this.

The Fire Concept Fragment was useless to him.

However, the Water Profundity Fragment was extremely meaningful to him. He could use it to comprehend Water Profundity in the future.

After all, he could easily condense water into ice and transform ice into water because he had cultivated the Supreme Emotion Forsaking Technique.

To him, comprehending the Water Concept and Water Profundity were equivalent to comprehending the Ice Concept and Ice Profundity.

Zhang Yan inhaled deeply as he opened the exquisite box.

Almost at the same time as the moment the box was opened, Zhang Yan could not help but narrow his eyes instantly.

A fragment that was gleaming with aqua blue chi appeared before his eyes.

"Congratulations. This Eighth Level Monarch Stage Water Profundity Fragment is now yours." At the same time, a familiar yet foreign voice entered Zhang Yan's ears. Moreover, it had a terrifying penetrating energy that spread out to the distance.

"SHIT!" Upon hearing the voice, Zhang Yan did not dare to slack and hurriedly flew out from the cavern as fast as he could.

After the lesson last time, he did not dare to take any more risk.

Previously, he finally got his hands on a Fire Profundity Fragment, but due to Feng Tian Wu's appearance, it had fallen into her hands instead.

Just as the saying went, 'Once bitten, twice shy'. In order to not repeat the same mistake again, Zhang Yan immediately took his leave without wasting any time.

Swish! Swish!

The moment Zhang Yan left, two foreboding figures appeared inside the cavern at the same time.

The two of them frowned when they saw the Water Concept Fragment on the ground.

In the next second, the two of them exchanged glances tacitly and asked in unison, "Is the Water Profundity Fragment in your hand?"

The two men looked at each other meaningfully before they left to find the person who had obtained the Ninth Level Monarch Stage Water Profundity Fragment.

Inside the Martial Emperor's secret treasure, in one of the caverns.

Swoosh!

A purple lightning-like figure entered the cavern nimbly and carefully and studied the surrounding. Not letting any details off, it was as though he was searching for something.

The owner of the figure was none other than Duan Ling Tian.

It had been around ten days after he had made a breakthrough to the Second Level Void Transformation.

During this period of time, Duan Ling Tian held two Concept fragments in his hands to comprehend two Concepts at the same time while he searched everywhere inch-by-inch for the person who had the Tricolor Fruits.

"Even if I managed to find that person now, I'm afraid it's very likely that he had already consumed two of the spirit fruits." After searching the cavern and finding nothing, Duan Ling Tian flew off and entered another cavern.

Duan Ling Tian searched through the caverns one by one patiently.

Very soon, he entered a cavern that was relatively remote and started his search again, not leaving any nooks and crannies unsearched.

In an inconspicuous corner at the top of the cavern where a tiny dark cave was situated, a white-clad young man sat cross-legged as he cultivated quietly.

"Zi Shang lad! It looks like you and this Duan Ling Tian always run into each other!" All of a sudden, a gloomy, hoarse, and ancient voice echoed in the white-clad young man's mind, slapping him awake from his cultivation.

"Duan Ling Tian?!" The white-clad young man was none other than Zi Shang. After hearing the voice in his mind, a cold gleam flashed across his eyes in the dark as though he was about to devour a certain somebody.

Naturally, the name 'Duan Ling Tian' was no stranger to him.

From the Azure Forest Imperial Kingdom until now, that guy was like his mortal enemy. No matter where he went or how high he stood, he would always appear before him.

Moreover, it drove him crazy that he was always in a disadvantageous position in all the repeated confrontations with that opponent.

Originally, he stood a chance to obtain great power since he had a powerhouse's remnant soul attached to his own body, but he was restrained by a stone tablet that this person held. This was already more than enough to drive him crazy with frustration.

"Duan Ling Tian, it's really you!" Sitting in the dark small cavern, Zi Shang's gaze immediately landed on the purple figure outside of the cavern. His eyes were filled with extreme hatred.

"Huh?" The moment when Zi Shang's narrowed eyes landed on Duan Ling Tian, Duan Ling Tian frowned as though he could feel that he was being closely watched by someone. At the same time, he lifted up his head without warning and looked at the remote corner on top of the cavern.

A dark hole that was big enough to accommodate one person entered his line of vision.

Just as Duan Ling Tian was about to use his Spiritual Energy to probe inside the cavern, he suddenly saw a white figure flew out from inside the cavern and descended before his eyes.

"Zi Shang!" Upon seeing the white-clad young man, Duan Ling Tian narrowed his eyes and asked in bewilderment, "Y-You're not dead?!"

At this moment, Duan Ling Tian was completely engulfed in shock.

That time, when they had just entered the Martial Emperor's secret treasure, Zi Shang sneaked-attack him on the high platform and fell into the bottomless abyss with him. Apart from that, both of them had even dueled in the bottomless abyss.

In that battle, he used the strength of 1,000 ancient horned dragons to suppress Zi Shang's strength of 878 ancient horned dragons and almost killed Zi Shang.

At the crucial moment, Zi Shang took out the Devilseal Tablet's lost fragment to distract him before falling into the bottomless abyss on his own.

Duan Ling Tian thought that he would have certainly died.

However, who knew that not only did Zi Shang manage to survive, he even appeared right before his eyes.

Chapter 968: Overpowering Zi Shang

"You're still not dead so how can I, Zi Shang, possibly be dead?!" Zi Shang smirked. "Duan Ling Tian, looks like we really do run into each other quite a lot. I can't believe that I would actually meet you here. Today, I, Zi Shang, will settle all old scores with you! I, Zi Shang, will make sure you die a graveless death!"

As Zi Shang reached the end of his sentence, his face was filled with confidence and killing intent gleamed in his eyes.

In this instance, he was like a bloodthirsty beast that might pounce on Duan Ling Tian at any given time.

Die a graveless death?

Duan Ling Tian was stunned by Zi Shang's confident words, he did not know where Zi Shang's confidence came from. It was only when he extended his Spiritual Energy out that he finally got the answer that he was looking for.

"First Level Void Transformation... This Zi Shang actually made a breakthrough to the First Level Void Transformation?!" Upon discovering Zi Shang's cultivation base, Duan Ling Tian could not help but gasp out loud. An unnoticeable hint of shock appeared in his eyes instantly.

He knew about Zi Shang's cultivation base very well.

That time, when they had just entered the Martial Emperor's secret treasure, although Zi Shang had demonstrated quite an extraordinary strength, the strength mainly came from his two Void Transformation Concepts.

His cultivation base was only at the Seventh Level Void Transformation.

It had only been a short period of time, and Zi Shang had already crossed over three levels and broke through to the First Level Void Transformation in just one go?

"Impossible!" Duan Ling Tian was bewildered when a pang of realization suddenly hit him hard in the head. He immediately remembered the reason why he came here in the first place.

"This Zi Shang is hiding inside such a secluded small cavern... W-Was he cultivating inside there? He easily crossed over three levels in such a short period to make a breakthrough to the First Level Void Transformation?! Don't tell me that he's the one who obtained the Tricolor Fruits?" The moment Duan Ling Tian thought of this, he could not help but narrow his eyes immediately.

What a coincidence!

At this time, Duan Ling Tian could not help but recall the scene that he saw inside the wet cavern where he found the Tricolor Plant. The scars on the two bodies were inflicted by the same person. Moreover, that person actually used a spear-like weapon!

— AND, the weapon that Zi Shang used was none other than a spear!

"What a fate this is! Not only are Zi Shang and me enemies who run into each other a lot, it looks like the thing that I've been searching for, for more than ten days is actually with him as well!" As Duan Ling Tian thought of this, his gaze as he looked at Zi Shang became colder in an instance.

"Since you want me to die a graveless death, bring it on then! I'll make you realize that I can kill you today even though I let you escape the last time!" Duan Ling Tian scoffed as he responded to Zi Shang's provocation. Colors of disdain filled his entire face.

"Haha... Duan Ling Tian, do you really think I'm still the same person as I was before?" Zi Shang burst out laughing like a maniac when he saw the disdain on Duan Ling Tian's face. As he reached the end of his sentence, his tone turned ruthless.

"Today, I, Zi Shang, will send you up to Heaven! You, Duan Ling

Tian, better remember to not provoke me, Zi Shang, again when you reincarnate!" Zi Shang snarled out loud. The moment the words left his mouth, a seven-foot-long spear appeared in his hand. It was his grade two spirit spear.

The instance the grade two spirit spear appeared, it immediately became entangled with a milky Origin Energy that merged with his Fire Concept nimbly before transforming into a vast flame that danced around the spear like a fiery dragon.

Very soon, the Wind Concept transformed into wind chi and surged into the fiery dragon and made it soar up without warning and radiated a stronger aura.

Fueling Fire Concept with Wind Concept!

Whoosh!

The Heaven and Earth Energy in the sky whirled as the Heaven and Earth Phenomenon emerged. Finally, it gathered into over 1050 silhouettes of ancient horned dragons that writhed as they descended in an imposing manner.

Initially, when Zi Shang's cultivation base was still at the Seventh Level Void Interpretation, he had relied on his Third Level Advance Wind Concept, First Level Advance Fire Concept, and the technique of fuelling Fire Concept with Wind Concept to demonstrate the strength of 876 ancient horned dragons along with the help of his grade two spirit spear.

At this moment, his cultivation base had already made a breakthrough to the First Level Void Transformation, and when he unleashed his full Origin Energy, it was equivalent to the strength of 200 ancient horned dragons.

It was 100 ancient horned dragons more than the strength he possessed when he was still at the Seventh Level Void Interpretation.

Coupled with the 78% strength boost given by the grade two

spirit spear, his current strength was 178 ancient horned dragons more than the strength that he possessed previously.

Due to this reason, Zi Shang's cultivation base that broke through to the First Level Void Transformation had a strength that was equivalent to over 1050 ancient horned dragons when he unleashed his full power.

Zi Shang's confidence was clearly written on his face as he held the grade two spirit spear in his hand.

In his opinion, the strength that Duan Ling Tian unleashed previously was only equivalent to the strength of 1000 ancient horned dragons, it was over 50 ancient horned dragons fewer than his.

It would be as easy as snapping fingers for him to kill Duan Ling Tian.

"Duan Ling Tian, DIE!" As Zi Shang's eyes turned colder and killing intent filled his face, he roared out loud. The grade two spirit spear that was intertwined with Wind and Fire Energy suddenly quivered as it stabbed toward Duan Ling Tian.

Whoosh!

As Zi Shang flew forward and the grade two spirit spear quivered, the spear ray that blotted out the entire sky showered down like meteor rain and was aimed toward the place where Duan Ling Tian was at.

Faced with the vast spear ray that blotted out the sky, Duan Ling Tian did not even bat an eyelid as he asked with his expression unchanged, "You're no longer the same person that you were so what makes you think that I'm still like my former self?"

"You're just acting!" When Zi Shang saw Duan Ling Tian still remained unperturbed by his attack that contained the strength of over 1050 ancient horned dragons, a brilliance flashed across Zi Shang's eyes. The strength of the grade two spirit spear in his

hands burst out even more.

Swoosh! Swoosh! Swoosh! Swoosh!

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The wind-fire spear ray that spread all over the sky showered down and fully enveloped Duan Ling Tian. It was apparent that he intended to annihilate Duan Ling Tian.

"You'll find out very soon whether it's just an act or not!" Duan Ling Tian scoffed. With a raise of his hand, a sword appeared in it. A sword that faintly emanated a destruction aura — the Quasi Royal Grade Spirit Sword.

The moment the Quasi Royal Grade Spirit Sword appeared, the Origin Energy on Duan Ling Tian's body surged up and transformed into a khaki energy that was tangled with purple lightning and blue wind chi before merging with the Quasi Royal Grade Spirit Sword.

Swish!

In an instant, the sword ray on the Quasi Royal Grade Spirit Sword burst out and emitted a series of crisp sword whirring sound.

At the same time, the Heaven and Earth Energy above Duan Ling Tian mobilized and began to brew into the Heaven and Earth Phenomenon.

Before the Heaven and Earth Phenomenon could solidify into form, Zi Shang's encompassing spear ray attack had already reached and landed on Duan Ling Tian's head in an overbearing manner.

Apart from setting off a series of ear-piercing wind whistling sound, the place where the spear rays passed by also set of numerous rolling waves that produced a flurry of hurricane that wreaked havoc in the cavern as it stirred up dust all over the place.

The hurricane swept out, it made Duan Ling Tian's purple clothing flutter in the wind, and it resulted in him looking even more dapper in appearance.

Faced with the invading hurricane, Duan Ling Tian did not even flinch.

His gaze was fixed upon the encompassing spear ray that was falling down on him.

At this moment, all that was left in his vision was only the spear ray.

When Zi Shang saw how Duan Ling Tian was shrouded in the encompassing spear ray and was about to be blasted to death, a wanton smile appeared on Zi Shang's face as he cried out loud in excitement, "Die!" The power of the grade two spirit spear in his hand continued to surge out!

However, in the next moment, the smile on his face froze instantly.

He could clearly see that Duan Ling Tian had made his move in the face of the encompassing spear ray that he had cast. Like a flash of lightning, a sword lashed out, and in the place where the sword passed through, the spear ray was completely wiped out.

"Impossible!!" Upon seeing this scene, Zi Shang quickly shook his head. He refused to believe this to be true.

However, when he inadvertently saw the 1200 silhouettes of ancient horned dragons that had already completed it solidification process above Duan Ling Tian's head, he froze and was completely stunned.

It did not cross his mind that Duan Ling Tian's improvement would actually be greater than his in just such a short time.

The strength Duan Ling Tian displayed this time was 200 ancient horned dragons more compared to last time, it was a lot more than his own improvement. Naturally, Zi Shang was not aware that even with the strength of 1200 ancient horned dragons that Duan Ling Tian had, Duan Ling Tian still did not unleash his full power yet. Otherwise, if he used his Earth Concept to borrow the Earth Energy, he could still have an additional strength of 50 ancient horned dragons, it was 50% more than the Earth Concept energy that he possessed currently.

Swoosh!

With a slash of his sword and without casting any technique, Duan Ling Tian easily shattered each and every spear ray that was falling down on him in an overbearing manner as though he was playing some game.

In the face of absolute power, no technique could make an impact no matter how powerful the technique was.

At this moment, the strength that was contained in Duan Ling Tian's sword was 140 ancient horned dragons more than Zi Shang's full power.

Both of them were at totally different levels.

"Zi Shang!" After crushing the encompassing spear ray, the power of the Quasi Royal Grade Spirit Sword in Duan Ling Tian's hand did not diminish as it charged toward Zi Shang swiftly. No technique was used at all in this process.

Whoosh!

The sword that contained the strength of 1200 ancient horned dragons slashed forward and caused the air flows in the air to whirl and set off a series of ear-blasting explosion sound as airwaves and hurricanes swept out all over the place.

Swish!

In the face of Duan Ling Tian's sword, Zi Shang did not dare to be reckless. With a solemn face, he went head to head with the spear in his hand.

Wind and fire energy surged up from the spear as the spear ray whisked out like a divine dragon with its mouth wide open as though wanting to swallow the sword in Duan Ling Tian's hand.

Clang!

Finally, the sword in Duan Ling Tian's hand and the spear in Zi Shang's hand collided. Two waves of bloodcurdling energy clashed and produced an appallingly loud noise.

Boom! Boom! Boom! Boom!

...

A series of thunder-like explosion reverberated in the air and roused a rolling airwave that resulted in a flurry of hurricane sweeping out and wreaking havoc in the cavern. No corner could escape the wanton persecution at all.

Crack! Crack! Crack! Crack!

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Zi Shang's face was awfully pale. His body shuddered without warning as countless of cracks began to appear from the place where his feet stood like a horrendous spider web.

On the other hand, Duan Ling Tian flew down to a lower altitude with a calm look on his face before he casually used the Quasi Royal Grade in his hand to obstruct the tip of the grade two spirit spear in Zi Shang's hand.

"Scram!" All of a sudden, Duan Ling Tian roared out loud as the Quasi Royal Grade Spirit Sword in his hand burst out with a great force before sweeping out and enveloping Zi Shang entirely like crushing dead leaves.

Wham!

In the next moment, Zi Shang flew out along with his spear and forcefully slammed into the wall at the side of the cavern.

After he landed on the ground, he was only able to stand back up

firmly with the help of the spirit spear in his hand as a support.

Chapter 969: Duan Ling Tian's Rage

"Elder Ghost!"

Although Zi Shang had a grade two spirit spear supporting him, he could not stop spitting blood from his mouth as he kneeled on one knee on the ground.

As his blood flowed, a dazzling river was formed on the ground before him.

All he could feel at the moment was that all of the strength in his body had been exhausted. He no longer had any strength left to fight Duan Ling Tian.

Under such a circumstance, the only thing that he could depend on was Ghost Flame who was lurking in his body.

However, Ghost Flame did not respond to Zi Shang this time.

"Elder Ghost, Elder Ghost..." Zi Shang proceeded to call out worriedly.

However, Ghost Flame did not respond to him as though he had completely vanished.

At that moment, Zi Shang noticed that something was wrong.

He lifted up his head with difficulty and looked at the purple-clad young man walking toward him step by step.

His heart jolted when he saw the chipped tablet in the purpleclad young man's hand, and he did not know when it had appeared. He finally figured out why Ghost Flame had ignored him.

Duan Ling Tian took out the Devilseal Tablet that was able to suppress Ghost Flame. Naturally, that would mean that it was impossible for Ghost Flame to show himself and help him.

"Duan Ling Tian!"

Zi Shang could not help but clench his teeth as he stared at the purple-clad young man nearby. Apart from anger, there was a mix of bitterness in his eyes.

He knew he was doomed!

With the grudge between him and Duan Ling Tian, it was impossible for Duan Ling Tian to let him go even if he surrendered and begged!

Therefore, Zi Shang stood up and strenuously relied on the grade two spirit spear. He glared at Duan Ling Tian with his eyes that were filled with grudge. "Duan... Duan Ling Tian! I won't forgive you even if I'm dead! I won't forgive you even if I become a ghost!!"

Duan Ling Tian held the Devilseal Tablet in one hand to prevent Zi Shang from obtaining help from what seemed to be a Martial Emperor's soul remnant in his body to fight and a sword in the other hand as he looked at Zi Shang coldly.

Zi Shang would definitely die as soon as Duan Ling Tian swung the sword in his hand!

He heard what Zi Shang said and could not help but laugh. Soon, he glared at Zi Shang with disdain and said calmly, "Zi Shang, is that what you really think... I'm not afraid of you when you're alive, why would I be afraid of you when you're dead?"

"Hahaha..." At that moment, Zi Shang began to laugh. It was strange, and his laugh was delirious and without pretense.

"What are you laughing at?" Duan Ling Tian frowned and stared at Zi Shang coldly.

Zi Shang's laughter gradually died down. However, he still had a smile on his face, it was a cold and cunning smile.

Zi Shang looked at Duan Ling Tian as though he was looking at a dead body as he grinned. "Duan Ling Tian, so what if you kill me?"

"As long as the Skywolf Fort's senior officials find out the

Devilseal Tablet is in your hands, they'll never let you go! I'll be waiting for you in hell. I'll definitely be waiting for you!" Zi Shang began to laugh again as he spoke. It was as if he could see the scene where Duan Ling Tian was being killed by a group of senior officials from the Skywolf Fort.

"You take your time and wait then!"

Duan Ling Tian grinned, he lifted his arm and swung his sword toward Zi Shang.

The swing of the sword caused the relief expression on Zi Shang's face to change dramatically and he could not help but groan in a deep voice.

Duan Ling Tian did not kill Zi Shang immediately. The sword in his hand landed on Zi Shang's right wrist, and he swung it down all of the sudden.

'Pu!'

Blood spewed out when Duan Ling Tian broke Zi Shang's tendon with a swing of the sword. Zi Shang's body that was left with one hand was trembling.

Fortunately, Zi Shang could use the other hand to hold on tight to the grade two spirit spear. Otherwise, he would have definitely fallen head first on the ground.

'Whoosh!'

Unfortunately, Zi Shang could not endure it anymore as Duan Ling Tian swung his sword for the second time and broke the tendon in his remaining hand, and he fell on the ground. It was unbearable to watch.

"Duan Ling Tian, if you're a man, kill me once and for all!! If you don't, you're a bastard raised by a whore!"

Zi Shang groaned again and stared madly at Duan Ling Tian who was looking at him as he lifted his head. He shouted loudly with

the intention to provoke Duan Ling Tian so that he would kill him once and for all.

After Zi Shang spoke, Duan Ling Tian's eyes were covered with a layer of red all of a sudden.

Zi Shang could insult anything about him, but it was unforgivable for him to insult his mother!

"You want to die once and for all? I'm not going to doing that! I'll let you die a long and torturous death..."

At that moment, Duan Ling Tian's voice was extremely cold as though it came from a thaw hole. Anyone would have goosebumps hearing that voice.

Zi Shang's expression changed dramatically. He wanted to provoke Duan Ling Tian initially, but he did not expect it to backfire.

'Whoosh!'

Duan Ling Tian swung his sword once again in an arc as he chopped off one of Zi Shang's legs slowly.

During the procedure, Zi Shang could not endure it any longer and wailed in devastation.

"Duan... Duan Ling Tian, you... You're... You're a devil! You're a devil!" Zi Shang yelled loudly when he had a respite as Duan Ling Tian put his sword away.

'Whoosh!'

However, Duan Ling Tian swung the sword in his hand once again.

Zi Shang shrieked agonizingly as his other leg was chopped off.

His face was pale, but it regained its color soon after he used Origin Energy to staunch the bleeding from the wound.

'Whoosh!'

Duan Ling Tian's expression was cold as he swung the sword in his hand again as his eyes gleamed. He broke Zi Shang's Dantian instantly.

"Ahh!!'

At this moment, Zi Shang passed out immediately after releasing a shriek.

At the same time, the Origin Energy that was used to staunch the bleeding on Zi Shang's body vanished. Blood was flowing out continuously from the wounds on his four limbs. Very quickly, it turned into a river and drowned his body in it.

Up until that moment, the fierce gleam in Duan Ling Tian did not fade away at all.

In his past life on earth, he was an orphan who had no parents.

He had a mother named Li Rou when he arrived in this world.

The love that Li Rou gave him had caused him to treat Li Rou like his birth mother.

If he was asked who mattered the most to him in the world, it would undoubtedly be Li Rou, his mother in this life.

As the saying went, 'Every dragon has a reverse scale, one would definitely die if one touches it!'

His mother was his reverse scale.

He was enraged when Zi Shang insulted his mother earlier. He was so angry that he could no longer suppress his emotion.

'Fu!'

Duan Ling Tian's eyes gleamed fiercely when he noticed that Zi Shang would soon die from blood loss while he was passed out. He lifted his arm and took out a bottle of hard liquor that had never been opened from his Spatial Ring.

After opening the seal on the hard liquor bottle, Duan Ling Tian

then poured the hard liquor on Zi Shang's head.

Zi Shang was passed out, but he woke up with a jerk from the icecold hard liquor.

However, the only thing Zi Shang could feel was a devastating pain all over his body when he woke up, and he began to wail in pain.

How could he maintain his composure from earlier?

Zi Shang's cultivation base was completely destroyed, and he could no longer use Origin Energy to staunch the bleeding from his wounds.

The only thing he could do was to look at the blood flowing out his body.

Very soon, Zi Shang closed his eyes and passed out again.

Duan Ling Tian patiently poured the hard liquor on Zi Shang's head again, and again, waking Zi Shang waking up over and over again in return. He would let out devastating wails repeatedly before passing out again.

"Duan... Duan Ling Tian... Please... Please just kill me!"

"I beg you! I... I'm begging you!!"

. . .

Zi Shang's face was ashen, and his breath was weak but he could not stop begging.

"You should've known this would be the consequence from the moment you insulted my mother!"

Duan Ling Tian ignored Zi Shang and continued to torture him.

Half an hour later, Zi Shang's head fell hard onto the ground. He had lost his breath completely and died of blood loss.

Zi Shang was dead, he was really dead!

Duan Ling Tian's rage faded gradually when Zi Shang died.

He looked into Zi Shang's eyes again. Although there was still cold gleam shining in his eyes, there was no longer unforgivable hatred like before.

Duan Ling Tian became a little absentminded as he stared at Zi Shang's body.

At this moment, he could not help but recall the time when he first saw Zi Shang.

Zi Shang was riding on a flying beast when he landed on the peak of Seven Star Sword Sect's Dubhe Peak in the Azure Forest Imperial Kingdom. He had intended to have an affair with his fiancee, Ke Er.

Conflict sparked between him and Zi Shang after that, and they established a two-year agreement.

Throughout the two years, he defeated Zi Shang whose cultivation base was a couple of levels higher than him easily with his Soul Skill Thousand Illusions. Zi Shang left unwillingly.

That time when he met Zi Shang again was at the Darkhan Dynasty's Martial Competition, the conflict between him and Zi Shang rose up.

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Duan Ling Tian looked at Zi Shang's dead body calmly as he conveniently took Zi Shang's Spatial Ring.

'Puff!'

In the next moment, a purple flame with golden edges burned on Duan Ling Tian's hands. He was ready to pour the hard liquor on Zi Shang's body so that he would vanish completely from this world.

"Wait... Wait!!"

At this moment, a cold, husky and old voice entered Duan Ling Tian's ears. It was filled with concern. "Duan Ling Tian, don't burn just yet. Don't burn just yet!!"

"Oh, why... Are you scared, old fellow?" Duan Ling Tian said calmly with a grin on his lips and a gleam in his eyes.

"Duan Ling Tian, if you're willing to let me go, and let me live in your body temporarily, I'll pay you back in the future! As long as you have me, in the future, you'll definitely..."

Naturally, the voice came from what seemed to be the soul remnant of a Martial Emperor powerhouse in Zi Shang's body. It was Ghost Flame's voice.

When he saw his host, Zi Shang, was killed, he was desperate to look for his next host. Otherwise, his soul remnant would vanish completely.

However, he stopped suddenly before he could finish speaking. He then said in panic after pausing for a second, "What... What are you doing?! No! No!! No..."

Unfortunately, it was Ghost Flame's fate that he could not finish what he was going to say.

That was because the flame that was on Duan Ling Tian's hand was poured onto Zi Shang's body at the moment Ghost Flame paused earlier. It ignited the hard liquor on Zi Shang's body.

As Zi Shang drowned in the flame that rose rapidly, Ghost Flame could not speak at all, and he vanished from the world just like Zi Shang did.

'Zi Shang, Ghost Flame, die!'

Duan Ling Tian maintained his cold expression from the beginning until the end.

Naturally, he had heard Ghost Flame's voice loud and clear, but he ignored it completely.

He had no idea what this Ghost Flame was, and he had no idea what kind of latent risk there might be in the future if he allowed Ghost Flame to attach himself to his body.

Therefore, he did not dare to take the risk.

"The spirit fruit..."

Duan Ling Tian performed Blood Ownership Claim on Zi Shang's Spatial Ring after he snapped back to his senses.

Chapter 970: The Last Profundity Fragment in the Outer Ring

It was just like what Duan Ling Tian had speculated, only one out of the three spirit fruits that grew on the Tricolor Plant was left at the moment.

Zi Shang had consumed two of the spirit fruits.

'Zi Shang should have only digested one spirit fruit's medicinal efficacy... Otherwise, his cultivation base would have definitely ascended to the Second Level Void Transformation if he had digested the second spirit fruit's medicinal efficacy!' When Duan Ling Tian thought about this, he felt fortunate.

To him, Zi Shang would undoubtedly be a tough opponent if he had broken through to the Second Level Void Transformation!

The reason he managed to defeat Zi Shang directly earlier was due to his power that suppressed Zi Shang in all aspects. Otherwise, he would not be able to do it so smoothly.

'If I didn't find out about the Tricolor Plant and made my way here or if Zi Shang took the Tricolor Plant along with him when he took the three spirit fruits... I would definitely not be here in time to find him hiding here!' Duan Ling Tian could not help but reveal a hint of fear in his eyes when he thought about this.

"As soon as Zi Shang absorbed and digested the three spirit fruits, he would definitely break through his cultivation base to the Second Level Void Transformation..."

"I would definitely be defeated if I bumped into him at that time, and I probably would've to use the amulet to kill him."

The more Duan Ling Tian thought about it, the more fearful he became. He really felt he was fortunate, and it showed on his face.

He felt fortunate that he did not have to use the amulet that his

father only in name left him.

Soon after, Duan Ling Tian's attention was diverted.

Duan Ling Tian's eyes gleamed when he looked at the spirit fruit in his hand that was so red that it was as though it was dripping blood.

'I'll eat this spirit fruit and wait until my cultivation base ascends... After that, I'll continue to figure out where the central area is...' He looked at the corner on top of this secluded cave subconsciously as he thought about it.

The inconspicuous dark cave in the corner was where Zi Shang was hiding in earlier.

"I'll cultivate here then."

Duan Ling Tian flew and entered the dark cave. He found the place empty, and it could easily contain his entire person.

"It's obvious that this tiny cave had just been opened up not long ago... Seems like it was done by Zi Shang," Duan Ling Tian muttered to himself softly.

He was relieved that Zi Shang was dead. Otherwise, he would suffer like he had a fishbone stuck in his throat!

"That Ghost Flame is just too strange... Luckily I killed him so he's no longer a threat to me," Duan Ling Tian said to himself softly as a gleam flashed in his eyes.

'All twenty Skywolf Fort's disciples died in my hands this time... I can consider this as earning back some 'interest' from Skywolf Fort for myself! If the few Vice Fort Masters at Skywolf Fort know about all this, I'm afraid they'll be so angry that they'll vomit blood.' Duan Tian Lang was secretly glad when he thought about this.

Back then, the people from Skywolf Fort almost killed him because they coveted the Devilseal Tablet in his hands. It had caused an innocent person to die because of him.

From that moment onward, his hatred toward Skywolf Fort was deep-rooted in his heart.

In the future, he would definitely travel to Skywolf Fort in Ancient Desert City to teach them a good lesson when he achieved a boost in his ability.

Moreover, he would definitely kill the four Vice Fort Masters who led a team to chase after him!

"Meng Li, Ning Can, Yu Kang, and Feng Wei," Duan Ling Tian uttered the four Skywolf Fort Vice Fort Masters' names loudly and clearly as his eyes gleamed coldly.

A moment later, Duan Ling Tian finally calmed down and popped the red spirit fruit into his mouth and swallowed it down into his stomach.

The medicinal efficacy turned into a warm current and merged with his body immediately.

Very quickly, the Origin Energy in his body began to churn. The overbearing medicinal efficacy from the Rebirth Pill that was hiding deep in his Dantian was released and integrated completely with the Origin energy.

Nine Dragons War Sovereign Technique, the Roving Dragon Form!

At this moment, Duan Ling Tian was completely immersed in his cultivation. His cultivation base was ascending at a terrifying speed from the double boost of the spirit fruit's medicinal efficacy and the Rebirth Pill's overbearing medicinal efficacy.

'Bang! Bang! Bang! Bang! '

That noise reverberated in one of the caves in the Martial Emperor's secret treasure's outer ring while Duan Ling Tian was deep in his cultivation.

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Loud 'bangs' were heard over and over again. The entire cave was filled with gusts of strong wind, and sand and dust were flying everywhere. It was difficult for one to see what was happening in there.

There were two silhouettes flashing past each other continuously in the cave. The battle seemed like it was stuck in a stalemate!

An overbearing saber glow would form whenever one of them swung the saber in his hand with the might of splitting a mountain.

Meanwhile, the other person had spirit weapon gloves on both of his hands. Whenever he punched, purple lightning would surround his fists and a thunderous sound would reverberate.

"Peng Bao, give me that Profundity Fragment... Otherwise, I'll definitely kill you today!"

The muscular young man whose punches were like thunder had thick brows, big eyes, and his voice was loud and clear.

"Lei Jun, everyone can boast! If you're really capable, go ahead, kill me and take the Profundity Fragment in my hands. Although the Profundity Fragment I have is an Eighth Level Monarch Stage Thunder Profundity Fragment, it suits you..."

"However, from what I know, there are many senior officials in your Izumo Sect who has comprehended the Ninth Level Advanced Thunder Concept, right? You'll just benefit someone else even if you managed to obtain this Profundity Fragrant... Why would you go all out for this?"

The young man who was shooting a domineering saber glow from his hands did not care when faced with Lei Jun's threat. Instead, he was advising Lei Jun.

If Duan Ling Tian was here, he would definitely recognize the person immediately.

He had met this young man once, and they had traded before. He was Annica Sect's disciple, Peng Bao.

The situation at the moment was easy to understand.

Peng Bao had obtained one of the Profundity Fragments at the Martial Emperor's secret treasure's outer ring, and it was the Eighth Level Monarch Stage Thunder Profundity Fragment. It had piqued Lei Jun, the Izumo Sect disciple's interest to fight for the fragment.

It was difficult to determine who was winning since it was a draw between him and Lei Jun.

As they battled for a while, Lei Jun seemed to notice that it was difficult for him to defeat Peng Bao. He then changed his tone to one that was calmer. "Peng Bao, from what I know, none of the senior officials in your Anicca Sect has comprehended the Ninth Level Advanced Thunder Concept! The senior officials in your Anicca Sect won't be able to use it even if you bring it back."

"Why don't we make a deal... As long as you're willing to give me this Eighth Level Monarch Stage Thunder Profundity Fragment, I'll agree to your condition as long as it's something our Izumo Sect is capable of doing." Lei Jun's tone became desperate as he reached the end of his sentence since he was desperate to obtain the Profundity Fragment in Peng Bao's hands.

"Unless you can trade a Profundity Fragment that can help our Anicca Sect's senior officials... Otherwise, don't think even think about taking the Thunder Profundity Fragment from me!" Peng Bao said calmly.

'What kind of joke is that!'

The Anicca Sect that he was in and the Izumo Sect that Lei Jun was from had always been incompatible like fire and water all these years.

If he was to give up the Thunder Profundity Fragment that he

had, another Monarch powerhouse would undoubtedly be born in Izumo Sect. At that time, Izumo Sect would beat Anicca Sect.

Therefore, although none of them could use the Thunder Profundity Fragment at the moment, it was impossible for him to give it up to the people from Izumo Sect.

Lei Jun wore a solemn expression on his face when he heard what Peng Bao said. He moved suddenly and retreated quickly.

Peng Bao did not chase after him when he saw Lei Jun retreating. Instead, he stood where he was and looked at Lei Jun calmly.

"Peng Bao, I can promise you this," Lei Jun took a deep breath and promised, "From this moment onward... You and I will collaborate to look and fight for the second Profundity Fragment!"

A smile appeared on Peng Bao's face when he heard that.

Lei Jun was the second most powerful person among the current Izumo Sect's disciples. His ability was not any lesser than Peng Bao's.

He would definitely be able to overcome all obstacles to obtain the Profundity Fragment that Anicca Sect needed if he collaborated with Lei Jun.

"From this moment onward, apart from looking and fighting for other Profundity Fragments in the outer ring... We also have to figure out the directions to the Martial Emperor's secret treasure's central area and head over there," said Peng Bao.

After that, the small team that Peng Bao and Lei Jun established temporarily began to move swiftly at the outer ring.

Unfortunately, their dream to look for the other four Profundity Fragments in the outer ring could not be realized.

The four Profundity Fragments had found masters of their own.

When Peng Bao and Lei Jun were looking for the directions to the Martial Emperor's secret treasure's central area, a group of survivors in the Martial Emperor's secret treasure was looking for the fragments as well.

The Martial Emperor's secret treasure's central area was the place where the Martial Emperor, who had left this secret treasure behind, ended his life. According to the Martial Emperor's message, his body should be located there.

Apart from the ample treasures that might be there, the three Profundity Fragments in the Martial Emperor's body alone were sufficient to drive someone crazy to look for them!

Those were Emperor Stage Profundity Fragment and two Monarch Stage Profundity Fragments.

While they were looking for the Martial Emperor's secret treasure's central area and heading there, Duan Ling Tian remained immersed in his cultivation. He seemed to have forgotten about time.

Nine Dragons War Sovereign Technique, the Roving Dragon Form!

The Origin Energy in his body was circulating rapidly to boost his cultivation base quickly.

It was unknown how long had passed when Duan Ling Tian finally opened his eyes that gleamed in the dark.

"Almost there."

Duan Ling Tian woke up when the Rebirth Pill's overbearing medicinal efficacy returned to his Dantian, and he did not continue to cultivate.

Meanwhile, he had exhausted the red spirit fruit's medicinal efficacy completely.

His cultivation base had successfully broken through to the Third Level Void Transformation, and he had reached the Fourth Level Void Transformation's plateau and it was still unstable. "Wind!"

Suddenly, a rapid wind whistling noise arose in the tiny, dark cave. Soon, the noise became louder and louder.

"Third Level Advanced Wind Concept... I've finally comprehended it."

At that moment when Duan Ling Tian was mumbling to himself, he flew out of the tiny, dark cave as if he had transformed into a gust of wind. He then appeared in the spacious cave outside that was as bright as day.

"I should continue to look for the directions to the Martial Emperor's secret treasure's central area," Duan Ling Tian muttered. Once he finished speaking, he was nowhere to be seen.

Chapter 971: Being Framed

Duan Ling Tian had broken through his cultivation base and comprehended the Third Level Advanced Wind Concept, and he rushed out like lightning. The Heaven and Earth Phenomenon above his head followed him like his shadow.

When the khaki energy rumbled below Duan Ling Tian's feet, it was as though he resonated with the ground. He traveled across a few caves after he stepped out.

Apart from the bolts of rampant purple lightning rumbling around the khaki energy, there were waves of green energy following it.

Moreover, there was a faint layer of energy on his body that acted as a pathfinder as Duan Ling Tian was rushing. Upon closer inspection, it was a wave of sword-shaped energy.

Meanwhile, ancient horned dragons' silhouettes flew above his head when he was rushing. He looked menacing.

Due to the rapid speed, it was difficult for one to see how many ancient horned dragons' silhouettes were there.

As soon as Duan Ling Tian halted his movement, the Heaven and Earth Phenomenon above his head would be crystal clear. There were a total of 1,150 ancient horned dragons' silhouettes.

A Third Level Void Transformation with an Origin Energy boost that was as powerful as the strength of four hundred ancient horned dragons.

The Third Level Advanced Wind Concept also had the strength of four hundred ancient horned dragons.

The combination of the three remaining types of Ninth Level Void Interpretation Concepts was as powerful the strength of three hundred ancient horned dragons. Altogether, it had the strength of 1,100 ancient horned dragons!

The extra fifty ancient horned dragons' strength came from Duan Ling Tian's resonation with the Earth Energy with the help from Earth Concept and the earth. It was half the power of the Earth Concept.

Duan Ling Tian was driven by the strength of the 1,150 ancient horned dragons, and he was as fast as wind and thunder. Many martial artists would not be able to catch up with his speed due to how fast he was.

"Hmm?"

It was unknown how long had passed when Duan Ling Tian stopped moving, and he did not look too good.

"Chen Wei!"

Duan Ling Tian revealed a cold gleam in his eyes that seemed as though he was going to devour the next person he saw alive when he saw the body lying on the ground.

It was Chen Wei, a person that he knew.

He had already known Chen Wei before he joined Five Element Sect.

Although their first meeting ended on an unpleasant note, it was actually caused by Chen Wei being deceived by his birth brother.

Duan Ling Tian actually liked Chen Wei as a person.

Before entering the Martial Emperor's secret treasure, Chen Wei was an active person. However, he was now just a cold body. Moreover, it was obvious that he had been dead for many days.

'Bang!'

Duan Ling Tian was solemn as he lifted his foot and stomped on the ground.

'Rumble! Rumble!'

...

All of a sudden, a ferocious crack appeared on the ground where Duan Ling Tian stomped on. It only stopped cracking when it spread to Chen Wei's body, causing Chen Wei's body to fall.

As Duan Ling Tian lifted his arms, the Origin Energy merged with Earth Energy and rushed to the side of the cave wall. The rocks began to chip from above and gravels began to fall.

'Whoosh!'

Duan Ling Tian lifted his arms once again as he controlled the chips and gravels with his energy to fill the gaps for Chen Wei's burial. He wanted Chen Wei to be buried under the ground in peace.

"Rest in peace," Duan Ling Tian muttered to himself with his head lowered as he looked at the cracks that were spread all over the place.

"What's he doing?"

"I happened to see it because I came earlier... He seems to be burying a person's body."

"It should be a brother of the same sect that he's close with."

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It was unknown when it happened but the scene Duan Ling Tian created had attracted many to watch. They were standing far away and talking among themselves.

Duan Ling Tian frowned as he was getting ready to leave.

"It's Duan Ling Tian!"

Two people entered the cave to watch, and they could not help but exclaim when they saw Duan Ling Tian.

Duan Ling Tian looked over when he heard the voice.

He recognized the duo at first glance, they were the two monk

disciples from the Empyrean Temple.

Although he did not know the duo, he had some impressions of them.

Duan Ling Tian nodded at them. He thought it was fate that they managed to meet each other here since they came from the same entrance.

He was ready to leave again after he greeted and nodded at the duo.

However, before he could move, he realized that he had been surrounded by three people who approached him like three bolts of lightning. As the three surrounded him, their eyes gleamed as they stared at him with greed written all over their faces.

They were looking at him as though he was some precious treasure!

"You're Duan Ling Tian?"

"The most powerful person among the current Five Element Sect on the eastern side of the northern desert?"

"I heard that you obtained a Profundity Fragment?"

As the three of them surrounded Duan Ling Tian, they took turns to speak as their breaths quickened.

"Oh! How can I forget? Duan Ling Tian, Duan Ling Tian... I heard from someone that he obtained a Profundity Fragment earlier."

"I heard about that too. Duan Ling Tian, the most powerful person among the current Five Element Sect's disciples. He just obtained a Profundity Fragment not too long ago."

"Oh, so he's that Duan Ling Tian!"

...

Apart from the two Empyrean Temple's monk disciples who had a faint change of expression, the others were staring at Duan Ling Tian menacingly. They could not wait to kill him right away and take the Profundity Fragment from him.

"Hmm?"

Duan Ling Tian frowned when he heard the discussion around him. He immediately looked at the two monk disciples from the Empyrean Temple.

Suddenly, the two Empyrean Temple monk disciples' expressions changed dramatically and spoke immediately in panic as they shook their heads, "Duan Ling Tian, I know nothing about you obtaining the Profundity Fragment."

"That's right. If we knew you obtained the Profundity Fragment and spread the news, we definitely wouldn't have exposed your identity earlier!"

The two Empyrean Temple's monk disciples seemed to be a little panicked when they spoke.

They had witnessed Duan Ling Tian's ability previously. As long as Duan Ling Tian was willing, one blow was all that he needed to kill the both of them instantly!

Duan Ling Tian's frown grew deeper.

He did not blame the two Empyrean Temple's monk disciples for exposing his identity, rather, he was curious how the others knew he had obtained a Profundity Fragment.

Most importantly, these people knew his name as well as his background despite the fact that they had never seen him before.

'When I obtained that Seventh Level Monarch Stage Earth Profundity Fragment, I've taken special care to use Spiritual Energy to probe my surroundings... Apart from myself, there was definitely no other living human that knew about me obtaining the Profundity Fragment!'

Duan Ling Tian recalled the scene when he obtained the Seventh

Level Monarch Stage Earth Profundity Fragment, and he was absolutely certain of that.

There was definitely no other living person who knew he had obtained the Profundity Fragment!

It meant that there was only one possibility.

'Someone intentionally framed me in an attempt to make me the common enemy among the group of young people who entered the Martial Emperor's secret treasure... That person wants me dead!' Duan Ling Tian figured it out immediately after he gave it some thought. A layer of red appeared in his eyes as soon as he figured it out.

He could not hold back the rage that was rising in him at this moment.

The thing that he wanted to do most at this very moment was to find the person who started the rumor and kill him.

Although he was not concerned about the consequences of the rumor, he was extremely irritated that person framed him while hiding in the dark.

Apart from the two Empyrean Temple's monk disciples who were so scared that they were trembling while standing far away, Duan Ling Tian realized that another four people had come up to him and surrounded him, excluding the three people who surrounded him earlier.

There was a total of seven of them surrounding him.

At this moment, Duan Ling Tian figured out the situation.

Apart from the three people who were together in the beginning, the other four were separated into two small teams. There were two of them in each small team.

With that said, the seven of them came from three different forces.

There was a total of six forces that came from Entrance No.2.

Apart from the twenty Skywolf Fort disciples who died in his hands, although he did not know the remaining people from the five forces, he had a rough idea of who they were.

However, he did not have any impression of the seven people before him.

"Are all of you the disciples from Anicca Sect, Izumo Sect, and North Nether Sect?" Duan Ling Tian asked with his deep voice and focused his vision as he faced the seven young powerhouses whose Origin Energies were rising as their Concepts followed closely. They were all poised to attack.

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"That's right!"
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"Why? Are you afraid?"

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When they heard what Duan Ling Tian said, a couple of young powerhouses surrounding him wore a prideful smile on their faces.

As disciples from second-rate forces, they had a sense of superiority when they encountered disciples from third-rate forces such as Five Element Sect.

'It seems like there really are two entrances in the Martial Emperor's secret treasure... People from the Anicca Sect, Izumo Sect and North Nether Sect all came from Entrance No.1 while the others and I came from Entrance No.2.'

'Until now, I've yet to meet anyone who came from the third entrance.' Duan Ling Tian thought to himself and secretly confirmed the fact.

Although Duan Ling Tian was surrounded by the seven of them, he was not afraid at all. He asked slowly, "Which one of you are Anicca Sect's disciples?"

At this moment, Duan Ling Tian's eyes were calm and his face

was relaxed. His expression would not change even if Mountain Tai was to collapse before him.

"We're Anicca Sect's disciples," a young man and lady responded calmly after Duan Ling Tian spoke.

The young man wore a cold expression as he stared at Duan Ling Tian greedily.

Meanwhile, the young lady had a calm expression, and nobody could tell if she was happy or angry.

"For the sake of me being acquainted with Peng Bao, I'll advise you to retreat."

Duan Ling Tian glanced at the two Anicca Sect's disciples calmly. His tone was peaceful without any emotions.

Peng Bao was the Anicca Sect's disciple that he met earlier. He had a tremendous ability with a Third Level Void Transformation cultivation base.

When the both of them met, all he did was trade with Peng Bao since it was beneficial to both parties. They only met once, but he liked Peng Bao's straightforward character.

When he found out the duo before him were Anicca Sect's disciples, he was willing to let them live when he recalled Peng Bao. Otherwise, he would definitely not waste his breath on them.

The Anicca Sect' female disciple who had a calm face since the beginning could not help but said out loud, "You know Senior Brother Peng Bao?"

"Yes, I know him." Duan Ling Tian nodded.

The Anicca Sect's female disciple heard what he said and retreated after she nodded. "Senior Brother Peng Bao saved my life. Since you're his friend... I won't give you a difficult time today."

"Hmph! So what if you know Senior Brother Peng Bao? I must take the Profundity Fragment from you!"

However, the Anicca Sect's male disciple did not appreciate Duan Ling Tian's mercy.

Chapter 972: The Re-emergence of the God of Slaughter

Duan Ling Tian seemed like he did not hear what the male disciple from Anicca Sect said.

He gazed at the other six who were surrounding him and said, "The six of you... just come at me together!" When the six young powerhouses from second-rate forces heard what Duan Ling Tian said and saw the disregard on his face, their faces changed dramatically, and all of them were completely enraged by it.

A disciple from a third-rate force challenging the six of them from second-rate forces?

Provocation!

Direct provocation!

"Since you wish to die, we'll help you with it."

"We'll let you know, disciples from third-rate forces like you are similar to ants in the eyes of disciples from second-rate forces like us."

"It's as easy as killing chickens or cutting grass for us to kill you!"

• • •

Six of the disciples the from second-rate forces attacked simultaneously as they struck at Duan Ling Tian.

They fully exerted their Origin Energies, and their Concepts followed like shadows as they released the spirit weapons in their hands and gave it their best shot. They charged toward Duan Ling Tian with great momentum.

Each of them had several hundreds of ancient horned dragons' silhouettes at the space above them as they charged toward Duan Ling Tian who was surrounded in the middle.

More than three thousand ancient horned dragons' silhouettes formed a siege and lunged toward Duan Ling Tian's position with their fangs and claws bared.

Boom! Boom! Boom! Boom!

• • •

The full force from the six second-rate forces' disciples caused the air to compress rapidly, and a series of air explosion that sounded as loud as exploding mines resounded.

When the air explosions sounded, jets of airwaves rolled out in all directions and turned into gusts of strong wind. Everyone's robes billowed and fluttering sounds could be heard.

"Kill!" The spirit weapons in the hands of the six disciples from second-rate forces seemed to turn into death scythes at that moment as they headed for Duan Ling Tian, trying to reap his life.

The female Anicca Sect's disciple looked on calmly from the side.

In her opinion, it was impossible for the purple-clad young man, Duan Ling Tian, to survive the attacks of the six young powerhouses from the second-rate forces.

However, when her gaze inadvertently landed on the other two bystanders, she realized they were looking sympathetically at the six young powerhouses from the second-rate forces that were with her.

"En?" Her heart immediately sank, and she had an ominous premonition.

Was the purple-clad young man strong enough to deal with the six of them?

She felt a little absurd on second thought.

A disciple from a third-rate force, even if he was the No.1 among the youths, it was still impossible to fight six young powerhouses who were not inferior to her. Nevertheless, she was stunned in the very next moment. Her face turned red as if her throat was being choked.

Her eyes were wide as she stared at the scene before her, incredulity and amazement filled her eyes.

Oh, God!

What did she just see?!

Under the siege of the six young powerhouses as strong as him, the purple-clad young man casually stepped upward.

A sword that exuded a devastating aura then appeared in his hands.

'This is definitely not a grade two spirit sword!' A thought instantly appeared in her subconscious mind.

What surprised her the most was the subsequent move from the purple-clad young man.

He exerted his Origin Energy that continued transforming into a vast amount of khaki energy entwined with bolts of purple lightning along with gusts of green wind that were solidifying.

Apart from that, there was a swift and piercing aura on the purple-clad young man.

"Sword Concept!" The female Anicca Sect disciple was very familiar with it since she was a martial artist who had comprehended the Sword Concept.

'He has comprehended so many Concepts? All of them seem to be at a high level too.' Within a few breaths' time, the female Anicca Sect's disciple only had time to figure out this much.

In the next moment, she witnessed an unforgettable scene. It was a scene that haunted her for the rest of her life and made her feel grateful for the choice she made today.

The female Anicca Sect's disciple clearly saw as the purple-clad young man raised his hand and swung his sword. A frightening sword qi turned around as fast as a flash of lightning, and it lasted very briefly.

Shortly after, all the six young powerhouses, who were charging toward him with great momentum, were slashed at their waists into two halves. Their incomplete corpses smashed together due to inertia.

Everything happened in a blink of an eye, all six of them died without time for any one of them to even scream.

The female Anicca Sect's disciple completely froze.

She only realized what had happened after a while. Her face was filled with horror as she muttered, "Senior brother Peng Bao... I owe you my life once again!"

She knew if she did not back down when the purple-clad young man mentioned Peng Bao, there would have been more than six deaths. She would not have been able to stay alive.

Boom! Boom! Boom! Boom!

• • •

Pieces of incomplete corpses fell on the ground and quickly dyed the ground red like a river of blood, and it was dreadful.

The two Empyrean Temple's disciples were shocked and pale as their bodies trembled.

Although they had expected the scene before them would happen, they still could not help but feel frightened when they witnessed it.

The six young powerhouses might be disciples from second-rate forces, but to them, the strength of Duan Ling Tian from Five Element Sect had surpassed ordinary disciples from second-rate forces.

They were no match for Duan Ling Tian's strength unless they were the best among the younger generation from the second-rate

forces!

As for the best among the younger generation from second-rate forces, although they had never seen any, they could still identify that the six people who attacked Duan Ling Tian were not at that level.

The six of them would have been at most the better ones among the youths from the second-rate forces.

However, Duan Ling Tian's ability to instantly kill six First Level Void Transformation disciples from second-rate forces with one move had strike fear into their hearts.

"Duan Ling Tian's strength seems to have increased." They came to the same conclusion as they looked at each other. The depths of their eyes were filled with a fear that came from the bottom of their hearts.

"You've overestimated yourselves!" As Duan Ling Tian's coolly glanced at six of the incomplete corpses on the ground, a hint of coldness hung on the corner of his mouth.

His Spiritual Energy had identified the level of cultivation of the six of them. They were all First Level Void Transformation martial artists who were nothing before him.

Waves of Origin Energy rolled out as Duan Ling Tian raised his arms, he kept the grade two spirit weapons and Spatial Rings that belonged to the six of them. These were the trophies and fruits of his labor.

Then, Duan Ling Tian casually glanced at that female Anicca Sect's disciple and two of the Empyrean Temple's monk disciples.

"Duan Ling Tian, we won't tell anyone that you've acquired a Profundity Fragment," the two Empyrean Temple's monk disciples hurriedly said when they saw Duan Ling Tian's gaze. They bit their fingers and quickly made an oath with their blood on the Ninety-Nine Heavenly Tribulation.

Duan Ling Tian was speechless when he saw that.

When did he ask them to make an oath?

He knew in his heart that the news of him acquiring a Profundity Fragment was intentionally leaked. It was safe to assume that most of the young powerhouses in the Martial Emperor's secret treasure already knew about it.

Apart from those uninformed, everyone else must have known.

"No matter who it is... Those who hit below the belt must be repaid with my endless anger!" Duan Ling Tian's eyes turned cold as the anger in his heart skyrocketed.

Shou! Under the watchful gazes of both of the Empyrean Temple's monk disciples and the female Anicca Sect's disciple, Duan Ling Tian moved and disappeared before their eyes in just a second as if he had vanished into thin air.

Only then did the three of them heave a sigh of relief.

In front of Duan Ling Tian, they felt oppressed from the bottom of their hearts.

He was a chilling God of Slaughter!

When they looked at the six incomplete corpses before them, their faces paled again, and a hint of fear that came from the bottom of their hearts shone in their eyes.

The female Anicca Sect's disciple looked at the two Empyrean Temple's monk disciples and asked calmly, "Both of you... knew that he was so strong?"

"Of course! He killed forty-eight young disciples from third-rate forces with only two swords when he entered the Martial Emperor's secret treasure... He's a freak!"

"I have to say, you made the right choice... Otherwise, you would've ended up like them," said the two Empyrean Temple's monk disciples as their gazes landed on the remains stacked in a

river of blood in front of them and involuntarily shuddered again.

"Killed forty-eight young disciples from third-rate forces with two swords?" The female Anicca Sect's disciple could not help but narrow her eyes.

Those who were sent into the Martial Emperor's secret treasure would have been the stronger ones among the younger generation of third-rate forces' disciples, they would not be weak.

However, to kill forty-eight young disciples from third-rate forces with merely two swords, she knew she would not be able to achieve that with her strength.

Even if she was able to kill them all, she would not be able to do it so simply and swiftly.

"Duan Ling Tian, Duan Ling Tian... Senior brother Peng Bao, what kind of freak did you meet?" A bitter smile hung on the corner of the female Anicca Sect's disciple's mouth.

If Duan Ling Tian did not mention Peng Bao in a timely manner, and she did not withdraw from the battle because Peng Bao had saved her life before, she would have been more than dead!

Naturally, Duan Ling Tian did not have the time to figure out the Empyrean Temple's monk disciples' and the female Anicca Sect's disciple's state of mind.

He continued to search for the directions to the central area of the Martial Emperor's secret treasure.

Obviously, he was also trying to deduce who was the person that framed him.

'Knows my name and my background... The person who framed me must have been from one of the six major forces that entered the Martial Emperor's secret treasure with me.'

'Nineteen disciples from Skywolf Fort was killed by me as soon as we entered the Martial Emperor's secret treasure... Could it be Zi Shang who spread the news?' Duan Ling Tian furrowed his brows as the thought arose.

In his opinion, this was the most viable possibility. Although he had killed Zi Shang, who knew if Zi Shang had already framed him by spreading the news of him possessing a Profundity Fragment before that.

"No!" Very soon, Duan Ling Tian suddenly thought of something and shook his head.

Chapter 973: Headed Toward the Central Area

'The soul remnant that was hidden in Zi Shang's body... is most likely from the Devilseal Tablet! After all, he did own a Devilseal Tablet fragment.'

'More importantly, the soul remnant that was hidden in Zi Shang's body seems to be a Martial Emperor powerhouse who recognized the Devilseal Tablet! It's possible that he knew the background of the Devilseal Tablet.'

'Then, he should know the value of the Devilseal Tablet... This also means Zi Shang wouldn't have framed me! Otherwise, if I'm killed, the Devilseal Tablet will fall into other people's hands.' Duan Ling Tian thought a lot in just a few minutes.

First, he was certain Zi Shang knew the value of the Devilseal Tablet.

Back when he was hunted by the Skywolf Fort's four Vice Fort Masters, it was led by Zi Shang with the Devilseal Tablet.

'It could be that Zi Shang wanted Skywolf Fort to obtain the Devilseal Tablet first before he steals it back with other methods... He had aid from a soul remnant that seems to be a Martial Emperor powerhouse, it wouldn't be difficult to obtain strength that surpasses Skywolf Fort in the future!'

'However, it's different in the Martial Emperor's secret treasure! Once he spreads the news that I have a Profundity Fragment... He wouldn't be able to find out who killed me, let alone retrieving the Devilseal Tablet from the person who killed me.' With this line of thought, Duan Ling Tian confirmed that the person who framed him was not Zi Shang!

Since Zi Shang was interested in his Devilseal Tablet, he would not do such a stupid thing.

'But if not Zi Shang, then who is it?' Duan Ling Tian frowned as he flew. He still could not figure out who was trying to frame him.

'Could it be that two disciples from Sun Moon Sect?' Soon, Duan Ling Tian thought of the remaining Sun Moon Sect's disciples. They had the largest motive since the other eighteen Sun Moon Sect's disciples died in his hands.

If the two of them wanted revenge, then they would have the motive.

'Apart from them, the people from Emotion Severing Sect would also have a motive.' When he first entered the Martial Emperor's secret treasure, he had killed nineteen disciples from Skywolf Fort, seventeen disciples from Sun Moon Sect, and twelve disciples from Emotion Severing Sect.

"It's possible that among the remaining Emotion Severing Sect's disciples, there are a few who wish to avenge the dead Emotion Severing Sect's disciples," Duan Ling Tian murmured.

Shortly after, Duan Ling Tian let out a bitter smile.

'There's also the Blade Sect's disciple, Lian Xiong... His arm was severed by Tian Wu before entering the Martial Emperor's secret treasure because of me! Although he reattached his arm, I'm pretty sure he hates me.' Duan Ling Tian thought as he continued to search for possible suspects.

As he analyzed, he realized that no matter if it was the Blade Sect's disciple, Empyrean Temple's disciples or even Five Element Sect's disciples, all of them seemed to have the possibility of framing him.

"This is a headache." Duan Ling Tian shook his head and stopped thinking. However, his eyes revealed a harsh and cold light. "It doesn't matter who it is. They dared to frame me... I'll kill you and let you die horribly once I catch you!"

Duan Ling Tian moved rapidly, as fast as the wind, as he traveled

across caves.

Along Duan Ling Tian's journey, he heard chatters about him from a lot of the surviving young powerhouses. They were discussing the issue of the Profundity Fragment.

After half a month's time, Duan Ling Tian finally confirmed the directions to the central area of the Martial Emperor's secret treasure and headed there.

'Finally confirmed the direction... That Martial Emperor powerhouse's palace is there!' Duan Ling Tian flew toward the central area of the Martial Emperor's secret treasure. His speed was at the maximum, all that was left to be seen by young powerhouses along the way was a purple lightning-like figure.

"That person is moving so fast!"

"Yes, I couldn't catch up with his trail at all."

"Such a speed... He must at least be at the Fourth Level Void Transformation or above!"

...

The young powerhouses along the way could not help but sigh and admit defeat when they saw the flashing purple figure.

As Duan Ling Tian headed toward the central area of the Martial Emperor's secret treasure, a lot of young powerhouses scattered about the Martial Emperor's secret treasure had also figured out the directions to the central area and were traveling there.

"Brother Ling Tian obtained a Profundity Fragment?" Two figures were rapidly moving toward the central area of the Martial Emperor's secret treasure. One of them was surprised by the talks they had heard along the way.

"Peng Bao, you know that Duan Ling Tian?" The other person was Lei Jun, he was the second strongest powerhouse of the younger generation from Izumo Sect.

The former figure was Peng Bao, the second strongest powerhouse of the younger generation from Anicca Sect.

"I know him. He can be considered a friend... But, I did not realize he has the ability to obtain a Profundity Fragment." Peng Bao nodded, surprise showed on his face when he spoke.

He did not think that the young man he had seen once had such a strength!

As someone who had obtained a Profundity Fragment at the outer side of the Martial Emperor's secret treasure, he clearly knew that one needed sufficient strength and luck to obtain a Profundity Fragment.

The puppets guarding the Profundity Fragment was already troublesome enough.

Apart from the puppets, the boxes that contained the Profundity Fragment would release an extremely penetrating sound to attract people nearby.

If one could not overpower those who were attracted, the Profundity Fragment would have to be given away.

Hence, to obtain a Profundity Fragment, luck was secondary, and strength was the most important factor.

"If I meet him, I'll snatch the Profundity Fragment from his hands...You won't interfere, will you?" Lei Jun's eyes flashed as he asked quietly.

"If I meet him, I'll ask him which type of Profundity Fragment he has... If it's the one Anicca Sect needs, I'll try to exchange my Profundity Fragment with his," Peng Bao said calmly, he did not answer Lei Jun.

Lei Jun's eyes brightened when he heard his words.

Peng Bao's Profundity Fragment was the one he desperately needs, but he could not obtain it from Peng Bao.

If it fell into the Five Element Sect's disciple's hands who was from a third-rate force, it would be easily snatched by him, right?

A young disciple from a third-rate force, even if he was the strongest person among the younger generation of the third-rate forces, he would not be better than the second strongest person from Izumo Sect, a second-rate force.

Lei Jun was very confident of his strength.

"Now, I hope the Profundity Fragment in Duan Ling Tian's hands is the one Anicca Sect needs... Even if it's not, I'll still snatch the Profundity Fragment from his hands!" Lei Jun mumbled as a cold light gleamed in his eyes. "An ant from a third-rate force isn't qualified to own a Profundity Fragment!"

Shou! Shou!

Peng Bao and Lei Jun moved very fast as they headed toward the central area of the Martial Emperor's secret treasure.

At the same time, there were also a lot of other people who were traveling to the central area.

Shou!

A red-hot figure surrounded by a burning aura flashed by several caves in a blink of an eye. The speed was so fast that several young powerhouses along the way felt ashamed.

"Big Brother Duan should also be on his way to the central area right?" The figure that flashed by was a red-clad girl. She was like an elf dancing in the fire when she flew, drop-dead gorgeous and alluring. She looked around twenty. There was a bit of expectation between her eyebrows as she hurriedly traveled.

In her mind, the figure of a purple-clad young man appeared. It made her blushed, and it looked ravishing.

Shou! Shou!

On the other side of the Martial Emperor's secret treasure, two

shadows flew side by side at an extremely high speed.

There was a young man in red and a young man in blue who looked identical. It was obvious that they were twins.

However, they had entirely different expressions on their faces.

The red-clad youth was expressive with constantly changing expressions, whereas the blue-clad young man's face was extremely cold and remained the same from the beginning.

"Duan Ling Tian has obtained a Profundity Fragment?" There was a hint of surprise on the red-clad young man's face. "When you look at it, he's as lucky as us"

The blue-clad young man raised his eyebrows but stayed silent.

"The Profound Assimilation Formation we found in the Martial Emperor's secret treasure is way more powerful than the one we experienced in the sect... Judging from how our Concepts have improved, you can tell the Profound Assimilation Formation has a lot of Concept Fragments that are of better grades," the red-clad young man exclaimed.

This pair of twins was the Nangong Twins from Five Element Sect.

The blue-clad young man with a stony face was Nangong Chen, and the red-clad young man who looked fascinated was Nangong Yi.

The brothers were polar opposites, one was quiet and the other was lively.

Ever since they entered the Martial Emperor's secret treasure, they had each acquired a grade one spirit weapon in addition to entering an automatically activated Profound Assimilation Formation.

They were inside the Profound Assimilation Formation for three hours, and their Concepts had improved tremendously.

The improvement compared to the improvement they experienced in the Profound Assimilation Formation in Five Element Sect was like comparing heaven and earth.

Five Element Sect's Profound Assimilation Formation was nothing before the Profound Assimilation Formation in the Martial Emperor's secret treasure.

"Too bad the Profound Assimilation Formation can only be activated once... Otherwise, we could have comprehended the Ninth Level Advanced Concept if we're allowed to enter again," Nangong Yi sighed and said with pity all over his face.

"Greedy!" Nangong Chen said coolly.

"You don't want to?" Nangong Yi glanced at Nangong Chen scornfully. "Nevertheless, our encounter is better than Duan Ling Tian... Although he obtained a Profundity Fragment, he would have to hand it over to the sect."

"Heh, very hard to stay alive," Nangong Chen said a few words, he cherished his words as though it was gold.

"Yes... We did not expect those who entered from the other entrance of the Martial Emperor's secret treasure are from second-rate forces." Nangong Yi nodded with an apprehensive face.

Chapter 974: The Meeting

Since they had heard about Duan Ling Tian obtaining a Profundity Fragment, the young powerhouses from the second-rate forces had to have also heard of it.

Duan Ling Tian had to be everyone's target.

It was not difficult to guess.

"Although Duan Ling Tian is strong, I'm afraid he's no match for the top young powerhouses from second-rate forces!" Nangong Yi took a deep breath. His tone was filled with fear for the several few top young powerhouses from second-rate forces.

With his current strength, he could easily take on the average young powerhouses from second-rate forces. However, he had no confidence to win against top young powerhouses from secondrate forces.

Apart from having a Martial Emperor powerhouse in their sects, second-rate forces were second-rate forces because the young powerhouses' cultivations were far better than the cultivation by third-rate forces like Five Element Sect.

For once, Nangong Chen nodded and agreed with Nangong Yi.

Meanwhile, all around the Martial Emperor's secret treasure, more and more people had figured out the directions to the central area and were traveling there.

"En?" On his way to the central area of the Martial Emperor's secret treasure, Duan Ling Tian who was hurriedly traveling had just flown through a cave and saw three extremely familiar figures appearing in the distant.

The three of them were flying in the same direction as he was, they were obviously heading toward the central area of the Martial Emperor's secret treasure. "Daniu, Su Li, Big Brother Zhang." Duan Ling Tian's speed was as fast as lightning, he caught up like a ghost. He smiled and said hello when he arrived at their side.

The three of them were none other than Huang Daniu, Su Li, and Zhang Shou Yong!

Duan Ling Tian did not expect to meet them here, let alone to see the three of them together.

"Duan Ling Tian!"

"Brother Ling Tian!" Duan Ling Tian's appearance was a huge surprise for Huang Daniu, Su Li, and Zhang Shou Yong. Seeing Duan Ling Tian again brought excitement to their eyes.

"Duan Ling Tian, good for you... I thought you're already killed by the hands of the others!" Huang Daniu said in jest.

"Duan Ling Tian, did you really obtain a Profundity Fragment?" Su Li looked at Duan Ling Tian and asked with a piercing gaze.

Zhang Shou Yong also looked at Duan Ling Tian.

"If I say no... will all of you believe it?" Having heard Su Li's question, Duan Ling Tian knew the three of them must have heard about the rumor that he had obtained a Profundity Fragment. He could not help but smile bitterly.

Although he had obtained a Profundity Fragment, that was something no other living person knew.

As for the widespread rumor, it was just a setup.

"No?" Having heard Duan Ling Tian's respond, not only Su Li and Zhang Shou Yong, even Huang Daniu was surprised.

"Someone's trying to set me up." There was a flash in Duan Ling Tian's eyes, a glimmer of coldness flash past as though waiting for a chance to devour someone. "I still don't know who it is, but one thing's for sure, that person must have entered from Entrance No.2 with us."

"I'll surely kill them once I find out who it is," Huang Daniu threw a punch and said in anger. His face sank when he heard what Duan Ling Tian said.

"By framing you like this, he obviously wants to get you killed... That person must hold a grudge against you. Could it be the two remaining disciples of Sun Moon Sect?" Su Li speculated.

"It could also be Lian Xiong." There was a flash in Zhang Shou Yong's eyes who stood at the side. He quietly said, "In Blade Sect, everyone knows Lian Xiong always holds grudges and seeks revenge! He certainly wouldn't give up so easily after such a big loss to Brother Ling Tian."

"I've thought about these people that you all mentioned... I did consider the Emotion Severing Sect's disciples. After all, all of them have the motive! The one who framed me doesn't necessarily have to hold a grudge against me. It may be pure jealousy, and they just don't want me to survive this expedition in the Martial Emperor's secret treasure," Duan Ling Tian said slowly and shared his deduction.

Huang Daniu and the rest immediately fell silent.

"That person is really insidious! With one phrase, he put you in danger... Now, those young powerhouses from second-rate forces must be looking for you," Huang Daniu said with an alarmed expression.

Second-rate forces?

Duan Ling Tian lifted his eyebrows when he heard what Huang Daniu said.

None of the disciples of second-rate forces he had met and battled was a match for him. All of them died in his hands.

"Even if it's that Peng Bao from Anicca Sect... With my current strength, it shouldn't be hard to win him!" Duan Ling Tian unconsciously thought of Peng Bao whom he had met once previously.

At that time, his Spiritual Energy discovered Peng Bao was a Third Level Void Transformation martial artist. He did not have much confidence in winning a battle against Peng Bao then, but things have changed.

Unless Peng Bao had a fortuitous encounter, he would not be a match for Duan Ling Tian.

The four of them traveled to the central area of the Martial Emperor's secret treasure together. Along the way, Huang Daniu asked curiously, "Duan Ling Tian, did you gain anything else along the way?"

"It's not too bad... I obtained a Ninth Level Earth Concept fragment and a spirit fruit," Duan Ling Tian said as he smiled, he did not mention the incident with the Seventh Level Monarch Stage Earth Profundity Fragment. Otherwise, he would be admitting the rumor was true. Then, that person would not be framing him but would have spoken the truth instead.

That was not something he was willing to see.

"What about all of you?" After Duan Ling Tian told them about his acquisition, he looked at Huang Daniu and the other two others and asked, "How did the three of you meet?"

"I met Su Li first," Huang Daniu said.

"Yes." Su Li nodded. "After that, Daniu and I met Big brother Zhang together, and we decided to travel together. We did acquire some things... So far, we managed to collect all the Ninth Level Concept fragments that are usable for the three of us."

"Looks like it's a fruitful trip for the three of you," Duan Ling Tian said with a smile.

"Duan Ling Tian, you don't know... Apart from those, we encountered a Profundity Fragment! It was an Eighth Level Monarch Stage Wind Profundity Fragment!" Huang Daniu said and

sighed at the same time, hints of regret filled his face.

"Eighth Level Monarch Stage Wind Profundity Fragment?!" Duan Ling Tian was shocked when he heard Huang Daniu's statement.

Although he had a Monarch Stage Wind Profundity Fragment, it was just a Third Level Monarch Stage Wind Profundity Fragment. It was incomparable to an Eighth Level Monarch Stage Wind Profundity Fragment.

"You all didn't get it?" Duan Ling Tian's eyes flashed when he saw Huang Daniu's sigh. He asked curiously, "Since you all didn't manage to obtain it... This means the person who obtained that Profundity Fragment is stronger! But why did he let you go? Isn't he worried that you all will spread the news that he had obtained a Profundity Fragment?"

"He wanted to kill us, but we narrowly escaped... Besides, he doesn't seem to care about us spreading the news that he got a Profundity Fragment," Zhang Shou Yong said with a bitter smile.

"What does that mean?" Duan Ling Tian was stunned, his face filled with questions.

In his opinion, since the person tried to kill Huang Daniu, Su Li, and Zhang Shou Yong, that means he was worried the three of them would spread the news that he had obtained a Profundity Fragment. However, why did Zhang Shou Yong say he did not care?

Was that not contradictory?

Shortly after, Duan Ling Tian finally understood after listening to Su Li's explanation.

"What you mean is... He just stomped his feet, and several disciples from Izumo Sect and Anicca Sect was killed?" Duan Ling Tian could not help but inhale sharply.

Based on Su Li and the others' explanation, he gathered that the several Izumo Sect and Anicca Sect's disciples were the weakest among the disciples of second-rate forces that entered the Martial Emperor's secret treasure.

However, that black-clad young man was able to kill them with just a stomp of his feet and almost killed Su Li and the rest. He felt shocked from the bottom of his heart.

Huang Daniu's face was filled with fear as he said, "That person's strength should be at least at the Second or Third Level Void Transformation... More importantly, he comprehended the Earth Concept, and can draw support from Earth Energy!"

"According to what you've said... He's at least a Third Level Void Transformation martial artist! Additionally, the Earth Concept he has comprehended would be at least at the Third Level Advanced or higher," Duan Ling Tian guessed as he referred to the experience in the Rebirth Martial Emperor's memories.

"Forget it, don't mention him... Makes me feel unlucky!" Huang Daniu shook his head. "Duan Ling Tian, the news of you obtaining a Profundity Fragment has spread... Maybe you should stay away from the central area of the Martial Emperor's secret treasure?"

"That's right! Duan Ling Tian, what you should do now is protect yourself." Su Li agreed.

"Brother Ling Tian, I think you shouldn't go too... Once you're there, human greed will make you an obvious target for everyone," Zhang Shou Yong added.

Duan Ling Tian's heart warmed after listening to the concerns of the three of them.

Just when he wanted to say something, "Heng, you're Duan Ling Tian?" A cold humph sounded from the opening of a cave in front of them, and it spread clearly into Duan Ling Tian's ears.

Following that, Duan Ling Tian saw a black figure appeared on the path they were headed toward.

It was a black-clad young man with an indifferent expression. His

eyes seemed dull, but in fact, it hid a murderous intent and gave out an invisible sense of oppression.

Duan Ling Tian raised his eyebrows and extended his Spiritual Energy. He intended to identify his opponent's cultivation.

"It's you!!" At that moment, the screams of Huang Daniu, Su Li, and Zhang Shou Yong shocked Duan Ling Tian. His Spiritual Energy almost collapsed, and his heart was filled with curiosity.

Did they know the black-clad young man?

"Duan Ling Tian, he's the person we previously mentioned... But we didn't expect him to be nearby and to be eavesdropping on our conversation," Su Li answered the question in Duan Ling Tian's mind using Voice Transmission.

"Then... That Eighth Level Monarch Stage Wind Profundity Fragment is with him?" Having heard what Su Li said, Duan Ling Tian stared at the black-clad young man who was blocking their way with a piercing gaze.

His killing intent showed in the depth of his eyes.

Chapter 975: The Strength of the Black-clad Young Man

As Duan Ling Tian looked at the black-clad young man with killing intent flashing in his eyes, the gaze the black-clad young man used to look at him was also filled with the same aloof killing intent as though he was about to devour a certain somebody.

Apart from killing intent, greed could also be seen in the blackclad young man's gaze.

"Looks like he has also heard the news about me obtaining the Profundity Fragment." Duan Ling Tian was astute so he did not miss the greed in the depth of the black-clad young man's eyes. With just a beat of his heart, he faintly came to a conclusion.

At the same time, Duan Ling Tian extended his Spiritual Energy and immediately probed the black-clad young man's cultivation base.

Duan Ling Tian's eyes narrowed immediately after he discovered the black-clad young man's cultivation base.

"I didn't expect to come across the three of you again. You three were lucky last time so I spared your lives. However, this time you can all die together since you're on the same side as Duan Ling Tian!" The black-clad young man's cold gaze landed on Duan Ling Tian for a moment before sweeping across Huang Daniu, Su Li, and Zhang Shou Yong. His tone was cold and aloof.

As soon the words left his mouth, the black-clad young man raised his foot. The Origin Energy on his foot soared up before merging with Earth Concept and transformed into a gust of vast khaki energy that slammed mightily on the ground.

BAM!

A loud noise reverberated in the air, it shook the entire cavern as the earth trembled, and the mountains swayed. A hideous crack spread out beneath the black-clad young man's feet and continued to spread out in four cracks, heading to where Duan Ling Tian, Huang Daniu, Su Li, and Zhang Shou Yong were standing.

The speed of the cracks spreading was as fast as lightning, it so fast that it was absolutely terrifying!

Horror dawned on Huang Daniu, Su Li, and Zhang Shou Yong at once.

At this moment, they could clearly sense that the attack launched by the black-clad young man was more than 50% stronger than the attack that he cast previously.

'Looks like he held back last time!' This thought flashed across the three of their minds at the same time.

However, right at this moment, three cracks that contained bloodcurdling energy had crept out and already arrived before them. It left them with no time to resist nor escape.

For a time, despair rose up from the bottom of their hearts.

'Are we going to die now?'

In a flash, three pairs of eyes dimmed down a little.

Boom! Boom! Boom! Boom!

At the crucial moment, four loud bangs exploded and clearly entered their ears and woke them up from their trances.

In the next second, they saw with their own eyes that the three vile cracks containing horrendous energy that spread out toward them were suppressed by a more powerful force within a foot from them.

Apart from the three cracks that crept out toward them, the crack that was heading toward Duan Ling Tian was suppressed by an even more powerful force.

The person who made the move was none other than Duan Ling Tian.

Nobody noticed when, but Duan Ling Tian was already standing high in the air. With his purple robe fluttering in the air, he appeared incredibly elegant with his graceful bearing.

Empty-handed, he stood there watching the black-clad young man calmly as though the person who made the move earlier was not him at all.

The black-clad young man stood in the air as well. The Heaven and Earth Energy above his head swirled and gathered into 800 silhouettes of ancient horned dragons that writhed as they descended, vivid and lively.

Third Level Void Transformation!

Earlier when Duan Ling Tian had extended his Spiritual Energy out, he immediately discovered the cultivation base of the blackclad young man.

Third Level Advance Earth Concept!

Presently, he could even read the level of the Earth Concept the black-clad young man had comprehended when the black-clad young man launched his attack.

"The strength of 800 ancient horned dragons. And this is before he borrows the Earth Energy by resonating with the Earth using his Earth Concept! If he borrows the Earth Energy, he can cast out the strength of 1000 ancient horned dragons even without relying on the spirit weapon." Although Duan Ling Tian's gaze remained calm and collected, he could not help but be taken aback in his heart.

If the Third Level Advance Earth Concept was unleashed, it would be equivalent to the strength of 400 ancient horned dragons!

If he borrowed the Earth Energy, he would have an additional 50% strength that was equivalent to the strength of 200 ancient horned dragons.

Along with his Fourth Level Void Transformation's Origin Energy (T/N: Mr. Author might have made a mistake over here. In just a few paragraphs above, it was stated that the black-clad young man's cultivation base was at the Third Level but now it turned out to be the Fourth Level) that had the strength of 400 ancient horned dragons, the black-clad young man possessed the strength of 1000 ancient horned dragons without adding in the spirit weapon yet.

"Oh?" The black-clad young man's originally aloof and calm expression changed slightly after Duan Ling Tian suppressed his four waves of energy.

The other party's move was as fast as lightning. Without the need to mobilize his Heaven and Earth Energy to form the Heaven and Earth Phenomenon, he had already suppressed his own energy!

It was safe to assume that this person's strength was far greater than the strength of 800 ancient horned dragons that he had demonstrated earlier.

Although the other party did not use any spirit weapon like him, he was not afraid at all.

This was because he did not borrow the Earth Energy to make his move. If he had borrowed the Earth Energy, his Earth Concept would have an additional strength of 200 ancient horned dragons!

He believed at that time, this purple-clad young man before him would no longer be his opponent, and would be stepped beneath his feet!

"No wonder you could obtain a Profundity Fragment. Looks like I've underestimated you!" When the black-clad young man looked at Duan Ling Tian once again, his face had regained its calmness, but there was still some solemness in the depth of his gaze. He had truly taken Duan Ling Tian seriously as his opponent now.

"Duan Ling Tian's strength..." When Huang Daniu saw the 800 silhouettes of ancient horned dragons that appeared above the

black-clad young man's head, his eyes could not help but narrow. However, the moment he returned to his senses, his attention immediately shifted to that purple figure hovering in the air.

At this moment, just a purple silhouette was already enough to appear majestic in Huang Daniu's eyes.

"The strength of 800 ancient horned dragons could actually be suppressed by Duan Ling Tian with just a lift of his hand? Moreover, he's not using any spirit weapon at all?" All that Huang Daniu could feel was his alarmingly fast heartbeat. For a long period of time, he could not accept this shocking fact at all.

Although he did not know much about Duan Ling Tian's background, he could feel that the strength Duan Ling Tian displayed today was entirely different from the strength that he had demonstrated previously. It was as though the strength was from an entirely different person.

It had only been such a short time, and Duan Ling Tian's strength was so strong now?

"Before this, Duan Ling Tian did say that he obtained a spirit fruit... Could it be that it was the spirit fruit that helped him with this breakthrough?" At the same time, Huang Daniu could not help but speculate on his own.

Su Li and Zhang Shou Yong's gazes landed on Duan Ling Tian in unison as well. Their eyes were shining with a complicated light.

Compared to Huang Daniu, both of them knew Duan Ling Tian earlier, and they practically watched him grow up day by day.

At this moment, the gap between them and Duan Ling Tian had become even wider.

Such a gap almost made them suffocate!

"However, although your strength is quite impressive, you'll still have to die today. Not only you, your three other friends will have to die as well!" As the black-clad young man's gaze turned colder,

the khaki energy on his body trembled violently before forging a special connection with the entire cavern.

After a moment, the khaki energy on his body sizzled.

At the same time, another 200 silhouettes of ancient horned dragons appeared above his head. The moment the scene entered Huang Daniu and the other two persons' sights, they were overcome with astonishment.

"The strength from the Earth Energy is not a part of the 800 silhouettes of ancient horned dragons that he demonstrated earlier?" Huang Daniu's eyes narrowed instantly.

"After he borrows the Earth Energy, his full strength is equivalent to 1000 ancient horned dragons! And all this is without the help of his spirit weapon! Once he uses his spirit weapon, I wonder how strong he'll be?" Su Li and Zhang Shou Yong narrowed their eyes. Their heartbeats increased, and the pace became faster as time went by. They were not able to calm down for a long time.

Nobody knew when, but a wry smile had already crept up on the corners of their mouths.

"No wonder after he saw his strength being suppressed by Duan Ling Tian, not only did he not retreat, there's no shock on his face at all. As it turns out, he didn't borrow the Earth Energy yet!" Despair rose up in Huang Daniu, Su Li, and Zhang Shou Yong's hearts.

Although the strength Duan Ling Tian demonstrated earlier was very strong, they did not think Duan Ling Tian could defeat the black-clad young man who was able to demonstrate the strength of 1000 ancient horned dragons without the help of any spirit weapon.

Nobody realized when, but a gigantic hammer had suddenly appeared in the black-clad young man's hand. As soon as the

gigantic hammer appeared, it was immediately entangled by the khaki energy as it emanated waves of tyrannical aura.

Whoosh!

In the next moment, the Heaven and Earth above the black-clad young man whirled once again and an additional 350 over silhouettes of ancient horned dragons appeared again very quickly by the side of the 1000 silhouettes of ancient horned dragons.

The black-clad young man had a cultivation base at the Third Level Void Transformation. When he unleashed all his Origin Energy, it was equivalent to the strength of 400 ancient horned dragons.

This gigantic hammer gave a boost of 350 ancient horned dragons to the black-clad young man based on the 400 ancient horned dragons. One could easily make out the grade of this weapon.

"A boost of 88%... That's a grade one spirit weapon!" Duan Ling Tian narrowed his eyes at once. He could instantly see through the grade of the gigantic hammer in the black-clad young man's hand — it was a grade one spirit weapon.

The black-clad young man stood there as he held the gigantic hammer. Vast khaki energy emanated out of his body. With the gigantic hammer in his hand as the center, it turned into a vortex.

As the vortex expanded, it set off a series of faint explosion sound.

When the vast energy spread out to the ground of the cavern, the ground started to crumble and dense cracks spread out like a huge spider web.

Apart from that, flurries of hurricanes swept out in all directions with the black-clad young man in the center, and it spread throughout the cavern in just a blink of an eye. It caused the robes on Duan Ling Tian and the other three to flutter loudly in the wind.

"Leave first," Duan Ling Tian did not turn his head, he ordered unhurriedly as he stared at the black-clad young man calmly.

Naturally, this sentence was not aimed at the black-clad young man at all.

The moment Huang Daniu and the other two heard this, they exchanged glances before heaving a sigh of relief and left the cavern. They stood at the entrance of the cavern as they watched Duan Ling Tian and the black-clad young man who was at a stalemate from a distance away.

They were aware that not only would they not be able to be of any help to Duan Ling Tian in the face of this strong black-clad young man, they might become a burden to him instead.

Duan Ling Tian hovered in the air. Faced with this black-clad young man who had over 1350 silhouettes of ancient horned dragons above his head, a calm look still remained on his face as he asked indifferently, "You're a disciple of the North Nether Sect?"

Previously, he had heard from Huang Daniu that this black-clad young man did not even bat an eyelash when he killed the disciples from Anicca Sect and Izumo Sect.

Due to this reason, this person was most likely not a disciple of Anicca Sect or Izumo Sect.

Chapter 976: The Strength of 1,500 Ancient Horned Dragons!

With the gigantic hammer in his hand, the black-clad young man was like an unparalleled War God. His eyes gleamed coldly as the black robe on his body fluttered loudly in the wind. His voice was as cold as ice as he spoke unhurriedly, "Dead man, there's no need for you to know my identity!"

"That's right! Why do I need to know the identity of a dead man?" Upon hearing the black-clad young man's words, Duan Ling Tian was momentarily stunned before he burst out in a hearty laughter.

Duan Ling Tian's laughter immediately made Huang Daniu, Su Li, and Zhang Shou Yong stared at each other speechlessly.

"Duan Ling Tian can still laugh out loud at this moment? Could it be that he has faith in himself to defeat that black-clad young man?" Su Li muttered in a low voice with his eyes narrowed.

"That black-clad young man displayed a strength of over 1350 ancient horned dragons with the help of his spirit weapon! If Duan Ling Tian can defeat him, then it means that his strength is actually..." A gasp escaped from Huang Daniu's throat before he could finish his sentence.

Zhang Shou Yong stared intensely at the purple figure hovering in the air as he muttered, "I've known Brother Duan Ling Tian for a long time now so I know his conduct pretty well. If he can laugh at this time, it's obvious that he has faith in winning this battle and mowing that black-clad young man down!"

Upon hearing Zhang Shou Yong's words, Huang Daniu and Su Li's hearts that were hoisted high instantly eased. Anticipation could be seen in their eyes as they eagerly waited to watch Duan Ling Tian make his move.

"Go to hell!" Upon hearing Duan Ling Tian's words and seeing the

bright smile on Duan Ling Tian's face, the black-clad young man could not contain his temper any longer. He glowered before he disappeared from the spot where he was standing.

Whoosh!

The gigantic hammer in the black-clad young man's hand tore through with him in tow and charged at Duan Ling Tian like an exploding cannonball in an overbearing manner.

The airflow in the air began to tremble and set off a thunderous explosion in the places that it passed by.

As they exploded, invisible airwaves quivered and compressed the airflow in the air before it set off a vast hurricane that swept out in all directions that resulted in dust covering the entire cavern. Apart from that, a series of ear-piercing wind whistling sound echoed in the cavern too.

The gigantic hammer in the black-clad young man's hand contained a strength of 1350 ancient horned dragons and was like a meteorite that was falling down with the speed of lightning as it slammed down toward Duan Ling Tian's head mercilessly.

"What a powerful force!" Duan Ling Tian's eyes narrowed slightly, and his face darkened a little when he saw the airflow dispersing as the gigantic hammer slammed down.

In the face of the gigantic hammer that the black-clad young man wielded, a sword appeared in Duan Ling Tian's hand out of thin air — it was a sword that emitted a sharp and jagged aura.

A milky white Origin Energy soared out of Duan Ling Tian's body and transformed into a khaki energy that rushed into the sword. Moreover, bolts of purple lightning that were as thick as electric snakes wrapped around the sword as well.

Boom! Boom! Boom! Boom!

• • •

A series of faint explosion erupted in the air.

Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh!

• • •

Meanwhile, gusts of speedy blue wind chi appeared and intertwined around the sword as it exuded waves and waves of sharp aura.

In just a flash, Duan Ling Tian's hands lifted the Quasi Royal Blade Spirit Sword above his head, and his entire body exuded an awfully sharp and serrated aura!

The energy of the sword in Duan Ling Tian's hands spread over his entire body, and it made him look as though he had become one with the sword.

The khaki energy entwined with purple lightning and blue wind chi spread out from the surface of his body and the sword in his hand as it enveloped both him and the sword and transformed into a giant sword.

Whoosh!

As the khaki energy that was intertwined with purple lightning and blue wind chi exploded, the giant sword soared up into the sky and charged toward the gigantic hammer that was slamming down in an overbearing manner like a meteor.

When the giant sword soared up into the sky, the sharp and serrated aura filled the entire cavern, even Huang Daniu and the other two who were standing by the entrance could clearly feel this aura.

"What a powerful Sword Concept!" Su Li's eyes narrowed instantly.

As a Sword Cultivator, Su Li had a keen sense when it came to the Sword Concept. His perception of this was far better than that of Huang Daniu and Zhang Shou Yong.

Swoosh!

At this moment, his attention suddenly shifted and landed on the giant sword that was about to clash with the gigantic hammer.

He could see that Duan Ling Tian was not using any other martial skills at all, and similarly, the black-clad young man was not using any other martial skills as well.

It was a direct confrontation between the both of them.

They forsook all those complex skills and merely fought with each other using their brute strength, fully demonstrating the enthusiasm and passion of a martial artist!

Wham!

Like Thor's hammer, the gigantic hammer in the black-clad young man's hand crashed down without warning and continuously dissipated the airflow in the air. Like a humongous stone that dropped into a calm lake, it set off numerous ripples that spread out.

The strength of over 1350 ancient horned dragons endowed the gigantic hammer with an enormous power, and it elicited confidence that rose from the bottom of the black-clad young man's heart.

Swoosh!

The gigantic sword that Duan Ling Tian and the sword transformed into suddenly swept out and intercepted the falling gigantic hammer in the black-clad young man's hand without an ounce of fear.

Unlike the 1350 silhouettes of ancient horned dragons that were gathered by the Heaven and Earth Energy and mobilized by the black-clad young man and his hammer, from the moment Duan Ling Tian made his move until now — it had only been a few seconds since then — the Heaven and Earth Energy was still whirring above the place he passed by and had not formed the

Heaven and Earth Phenomenon yet.

"What a futile effort!" In the face of the giant sword that both Duan Ling Tian and his sword transformed into, the black-clad young man's face was filled with disdain. The khaki energy wrapped around the gigantic hammer slowly expanded and traversed the sky before slamming down on the giant sword.

Whoom!

Once again, the gigantic hammer flew and dropped down from the sky, it was only a mere foot away from the giant sword.

Whoosh!

Without any fear, the giant sword intercepted it directly. The expanding sword ray clashed violently with the gigantic hammer and set off a series of ear-deafening noise.

Boom! Boom! Boom! Boom! Boom!

• • •

As though it contained an endless amount of power, the sword ray on the giant sword continued to expand and soar when it was in a deadlock with the gigantic hammer in the black-clad young man's hand.

The gigantic hammer in the black-clad young man's hand dropped down and a khaki energy swept out. The Third Level Advance Earth Concept that borrowed the Earth Energy swept out without any reservation.

However, the black-clad young man turned pale quickly.

This was because he noticed the energy on the giant sword that Duan Ling Tian and his sword into continued to rise and strengthen. In just a blink of an eye, it suppressed the energy that was contained in the gigantic hammer.

The moment he saw the Heaven and Earth Phenomenon that had finally solidified into form above Duan Ling Tian's head, he was so stunned that horror dawned on his face right away, and he became distracted.

When two powerhouses were locked in a battle, the greatest mistake one could make was to be distracted!

At this moment, this black-clad young man made the biggest mistake, and it resulted in the energy of the gigantic hammer in his hand coming to a halt for a split second.

Swoosh!

When the gigantic hammer's energy had a sudden change due to the black-clad young man's loss of attention, the energy that continued to rise from the giant sword swept out like it was crushing dead leaves and slammed down on the gigantic hammer violently as it enveloped the black-clad young man entirely.

Wham!

A loud noise reverberated in the air. The black-clad young man and his hammer were sent flying backward all at once. Like an arrow that was shot out of a bow, they slammed toward one of the cavern walls by the side and hung on the wall.

Naturally, this was because the gigantic hammer in the blackclad young man's hand was embedded in the cavern wall while he hung on the gigantic hammer.

"BARF!!" The black-clad young man's vital energy and blood churned. His throat tightened, and he could not stop himself from coughing out a mouthful of blood.

To his surprise, after he threw up blood, everything became out of control. Every time he opened his mouth, spurts of vicious-looking blood would stream out from his mouth. In just a blink of an eye, a small stream of blood began to flow on the ground.

It was only after a while that he finally regained his senses and stared at the purple-clad figure hovering in the air in the distance with a ghastly pale face — Duan Ling Tian.

When the black-clad young man was sent flying away, the giant sword that Duan Ling Tian and his Quasi Royal Grade Spirit Sword transformed into had disappeared without a trace. Apart from that, the Quasi Royal Grade Spirit Sword had also been put away by him.

Duan Ling Tian hovered in the air. The Heaven and Earth Phenomenon gradually dissipated from above his head.

The Heaven and Earth Phenomenon that was gradually dissipating had a total of 1,500 silhouettes of ancient horned dragons, over 140 ancient horned dragons more than the black-clad young man's strength.

Overpowered!

Completely overpowered!

– and this was the strength Duan Ling Tian had before he communicated with the Earth using his Earth Concept to borrow the Earth Energy. Otherwise, the number of silhouettes that were slowly dissipating would not be limited to only 1,500 ancient horned dragons but 1,550 ancient horned dragons instead.

However, even if it was only 1,500 silhouettes of ancient horned dragons, it was still enough to greatly shocked Huang Daniu, Su Li, and Zhang Shou Yong.

"A-A strength of 1,500 ancient horned dragons?!" Huang Daniu's eyes were as wide as saucers. He was completely stunned.

Duan Ling Tian's strength had completely shaken them.

Whoosh!

Duan Ling Tian strode out, and in just a flash, he arrived before the black-clad young man hanging from the cavern wall with the gigantic hammer in his hand. He calmly stared into his eyes.

Colors drained from the black-clad young man's face instantly. A hint of fear was obvious in his eyes.

Long before he was sent flying, he had already seen the 1,500 silhouettes of ancient horned dragons solidifying above Duan Ling Tian's head.

At that moment, he already knew that he was no match for Duan Ling Tian!

"A-Are you really a disciple from a third-rate force — the Five Element Sect?!" The muscles on the black-clad young man's face continued to quiver. A hint of disbelief could be heard in his voice.

"Dead man, there's no need for you to know my identity!" Duan Ling Tian repeated the words the black-clad young man had uttered to him before, and horror immediately dawned on the black-clad young man's face. The khaki energy on his body rolled out as he struggled to escape.

However, when Duan Ling Tian was speaking, one of his hand was already accumulating power, and the instance the last word left his mouth, a palm that was filled with thousands of ancient horned dragons' strength charged out and landed on the black-clad young man.

WHAM!

Right away, the khaki energy that was just rising from the blackclad young man instantly shattered as his entire being was smashed into the cavern wall by Duan Ling Tian with just one blow. He looked like a wall mural stuck onto the wall.

Whoosh!

Immediately afterward, Duan Ling Tian raised a hand and took off the Spatial Ring from the black-clad young man's finger. Without any hesitation, he performed a Blood Ownership Claim on the ring.

Eighth Level Monarch Stage Wind Profundity Fragment!

Duan Ling Tian's heart leaped, and he became completely consumed with excitement.

Chapter 977: Leng Ji

Soon Duan Ling Tian's mind was jolted, and he saw a fragment gleaming in blue-colored chi within the Spatial Ring. It was none other than the Wind Profundity Fragment.

'The gleaming blue chi that surrounds this piece of Wind Profundity Fragment is even more intense than the one that I previously obtained from the Sword Monarch's treasure.' Duan Ling Tian thought to himself with raised eyebrows.

Back then, he obtained three pieces of Profundity Fragments from the Sword Monarch's treasure, all of which were Third Level Monarch Stage Profundity Fragments except for one, which was a Third Level Monarch Stage Wind Profundity Fragment.

However, compared to the Eighth Level Monarch Stage Wind Profundity Fragment he had just found, that piece of Third Level Monarch Stage Wind Profundity Fragment was not even worth mentioning at all.

"Now that I've had my hands on this Eighth Level Monarch Stage Wind Profundity Fragment, that Third Level Monarch Stage Wind Profundity Fragment can now be given to the sect." Duan Ling Tian made up his mind with a leap of his heart.

This time, any of the Five Element Sect disciples who entered the Martial Emperor's secret treasure would have to hand over the Profundity Fragment to the sect if they managed to get their hands on it.

If one obtained the second or third piece of the Profundity Fragments, they would be allowed to put those away for their own use.

At this moment, Duan Ling Tian was going to hand over the Third Level Monarch Stage Wind Profundity Fragment that he obtained in the Sword Monarch's treasure in the past to the sect as repayment for their graciousness in nurturing him.

For he who had already obtained the Eighth Level Monarch Stage Wind Profundity Fragment, the Third Level Monarch Stage Wind Profundity Fragment was something that he could discard now.

"Duan Ling Tian! You bastard! Since when have you become so strong?!" At this moment, among the three people who stood in the distance by the cavern entrance with their bodies completely stunned, Huang Daniu was the first person to return to his senses. As he walked towards Duan Ling Tian, he watched at him with bewilderment suffused onto his face. A gleam of disbelief was still apparent in his eyes.

Everything that had just happened was like a dream to him.

Su Li and Zhang Shou Yong were also awakened by Huang Daniu's voice. Entering the cavern once again, they walked towards Duan Ling Tian.

A hint of skepticism and disbelief could also be seen in their gaze when they shot a glance at Duan Ling Tian.

In their opinion, the strength that Duan Ling Tian had just displayed was exceedingly impossible and was completely beyond their imagination.

In the face of these three astonished faces, Duan Ling Tian merely smiled and held his tongue.

Whoosh!

At the same time, Duan Ling Tin shifted his attention to the black-clad young man whom he had just killed and was mounted on the cavern wall before he shifted his attention to the gigantic hammer beside him once more.

"A grade one spirit weapon!" Lifting his hand, Duan Ling Tian held up the gigantic hammer which was a grade one spirit weapon and casually weighed it in his hands. "Hmm, it's quite heavy..."

"Duan Ling Tian, you usually use a sword. So... regarding this gigantic hammer... I really don't think it would suit you at all. How about this? Why don't you... you know... Hehe!" He suggested with his gleaming eyes gawking at the gigantic hammer in Duan Ling Tian's hand while rubbing his palms together. Nobody had noticed, but Huang Daniu had already arrived by Duan Ling Tian's side. "What? Are you trying to say that this gigantic hammer doesn't suit me but you instead?" Duan Ling Tian could not suppress the smile that crept upon his face. How could he not possibly see through what Huang Daniu had in mind? It was obvious that he was interested in the gigantic hammer, a grade one spirit weapon and was trying to get his hands on it.

"Heh!" Huang Daniu, whose intentions had been revealed by Duan Ling Tian smiled in embarrassment while rubbing the side of his face, exposing a beaming smile that seemed rather unusual on his face.

"Just take it if you want to." Shaking his head, Duan Ling Tian casually threw the gigantic hammer to Huang Daniu as if he was throwing out the trash.

It had never crossed Huang Daniu's mind that Duan Ling Tian would give him the gigantic hammer, a grade one spirit weapon so readily. Flustered, he took hold of the gigantic hammer and beamed at Duan Ling Tian with intense fire in his eyes. "D-Duan Ling Tian, are you really giving me t-this grade one spirit weapon?"

"What? Don't you want it? Fine then, I'll just give it to Big Brother Zhang if you don't want it. I'm sure Big Brother Zhang would be very interested in this grade one spirit weapon as well." Duan Ling Tian smiled teasingly.

"I want it! Of course I want it! How could I not want it!" When Huang Daniu heard those words coupled with the sight of Zhang Shou Yong walking slowly toward them with his gaze stuck on the gigantic hammer in his hand, he immediately became panicstricken.

He truly feared that Duan Ling Tian would make him return the gigantic hammer and give it to Zhang Shou Yong instead.

"Big Brother Zhang, I'll help upgrade your wine gourd to a grade one spirit weapon later... The grade one spirit weapon that I can refine is far superior to this hammer." Looking at the interest Zhang Shou Yong was showing in the gigantic hammer, Duan Ling Tian made an offer to him using Voice Transmission.

Be it Huang Daniu or Zhang Shou Yong, they were both friends of his so he did not want to favor one more than the other.

Upon hearing Duan Ling Tian's words, Zhang Shou Yong narrowed his eyes a little before replying in his Voice Transmission in shock, "Brother Ling Tian, y-you can refine grade one spirit weapons now?"

Naturally, he understood the significance of being able to refine grade one spirit weapons. This meant that Duan Ling Tian was now a grade one weapon craftsman.

A third-rate force like the Blade Sect that he was a part of did not even have a grade one weapon craftsman at all, let alone even a second-rate force. There was no guarantee that a first-rate force would have someone like this in it as well!

For this reason alone, one could easily imagine just how respected and honorable a first-rate weapons craftsman was on the Cloud Continent.

"Yes," Duan Ling Tian nodded.

"Will the grade one spirit weapon that you're going to refine for me be stronger than the hammer in Huang Daniu's hands now?" Zhang Shou Yong's breathing hastened from not being able to help himself as he asked with his Voice Transmission.

"That old hammer?" Duan Ling Tian shook his head as he smiled wryly. "Isn't Big Brother Zhang underestimating me a little too much now?"

"Old hammer?" Zhang Shou Yong was immediately taken aback by Duan Ling Tian's words. By the time he regained his senses, a twitch could be seen at the corner of his mouth. 'That was a grade one spirit weapon for goodness sake! Yet, it was labeled as an "old hammer" by Duan Ling Tian?!'

"Don't you think that was a little too harsh in ridiculing people?" he asked.

"Well, it's only a grade one spirit weapon that provides an 88% boost. What else could it be if not an old hammer?" Duan Ling Tian answered matter-of-factly.

"Y-You mean, you can refine a grade one spirit weapon that can provide a boost beyond 88%?" Zhang Shou Yong's eyes lit up immediately as his breathing became even more rapid.

"If I can't come up with a grade one spirit weapon that provides a 90% boost, I wouldn't even dare to call myself a grade one weapon craftsman at all!" Duan Ling Tian continued his reply with his Voice Transmission.

"A 90% boost?" Zhang Shou Yong was stunned and was completely dumbfounded.

Even though he only had a grade three spirit weapon wine gourd in his hand, it was still a grade three spirit weapon that could provide a 70% boost. It was refined by Duan Ling Tian in the past and could already be considered to be the best of the best among grade three spirit weapons.

At that time, he was already blown away by the fact that a grade three spirit weapon refined by Duan Ling Tian could provide such a powerful boost.

However, it had never crossed his mind that Duan Ling Tian could actually craft a grade one spirit weapon that could provide a 90% boost.

Spirit weapons of this caliber could be considered to be the best of the best among all grade one spirit weapons.

However, looking at the confidence within Duan Ling Tian's eyes, Zhang Shou Yong could not bring himself to doubt his words. After letting a hearty smile out on his face, he no longer had his eyes on the gigantic hammer in Huang Daniu's hand.

From what he could see, the gigantic hammer was similar to trash that was not even worth mentioning compared to the grade one spirit weapon wine gourd that he would obtain in the future.

"Duan Ling Tian..." Staring at Duan Ling Tian, a smile filled with intense bitterness crept up upon the corner of Su Li's mouth. This man that he had come to know since he was 18 years old had grown so much to the way he is today.

In his opinion, the fact that he could walk out from a tiny kingdom in the Darkhan Dynasty by himself, along with his achievements to this date was already quite unimaginable. Yet, compared to this purple-clad young man in front of him, his achievements were not even worth the mention now.

"Let's go!" Duan Ling Tian called out to the three people with raised brows and continued to move towards the central zone of the Martial Emperor's secret treasure.

Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh!

Four figures flashed across at breakneck speed. It was as though they had transformed into four bolts of lightning as they disappeared through one of the exits in the cavern with just the blink of an eye.

Not long after Duan Ling Tian and the other three left the scene, three other figures passed through the cavern swiftly with the aim of moving toward the central zone of the Martial Emperor's secret treasure.

Similar to Duan Ling Tian and the other three, it was apparent

that these three were also heading towards the central zone of the Martial Emperor's secret treasure.

As the three of them passed through the cavern, they suddenly came to a halt one after the other. This revealed their faces. It was as though they had discovered something.

All three of them appeared to be young men who were about 35 years old.

"That is..."

The next second, the three young men noticed the body embedded in the cavern wall on one side of the cavern. One by one, they narrowed their eyes immediately.

"I'm quite sure that the person who put this body into such a thick cavern wall must have a strength that's at least 1,000 ancient horned dragons and above." One of the young men gasped in surprise.

The moment the other two young men heard this, their expressions turned gloomy immediately.

Shortly after, another young man muttered in surprise, "Even among the most outstanding young powerhouses currently in our Izumo Sect, or the Anicca and that North Nether Sect, there's probably no more than ten people who possess such immense power even with the usage of a spirit weapon, right?"

From what he said, it was apparent that he and the other two young men by his side were all disciples from a second-rate force in the northern desert — the Izumo Sect.

"Eh? Why does this person seem rather familiar?" The last young man shifted his attention to the body of the black-clad young man embedded within the cavern wall. He found this black-clad young man to be rather familiar as he raised his brows.

"You know him?" Immediately, the other two young men looked at the one who had just spoken with curiosity written all over their faces.

At the next moment, the man who found the black-clad young man embedded in the cavern wall to be familiar gradually inched his way to the body in the wall with curiosity in his heart.

The closer he got, the more familiar the black-clad young man seemed.

When the other two saw this, they followed suit behind the young man. They walked toward the cavern wall step by step as they stared at the body of the black-clad young man embedded within the wall like a mural.

Upon seeing clearly the face attached to the body, the young man who was leading the group immediately narrowed his eyes.

"L-Leng Ji?" Within mere moments, horror dawned on his face. With his eyes gleaming in disbelief, it was as though he had witnessed something that had completely blown his mind.

Chapter 978: Peng Bao's Plan

After the Izumo Sect's disciple who identified the black-clad young man mounted on the wall spoke, the other two Izumo Sect's disciples narrowed their eyes. Shocked, one of them took the initiative to ask, "What did you say? Leng Ji? Did you... Did you say he's Leng Ji?!"

"Maybe you got the wrong person? How... How is it possible that Leng Ji is killed? Leng Ji was easily in the top six when compared to the top three young men in the second-rate forces from the northern desert!"

The other person wore an expression of disbelief as well.

The Izumo Sect's disciple who identified Leng Ji shook his head and said affirmatively, "It's impossible that I got the wrong person... I met Leng Ji once! He might not know me, but I definitely recognize him."

When the other Izumo Sect's disciple saw that the Izumo Sect's disciple was very certain about it, he dismissed his doubts completely even though he was initially skeptical and thought that the other disciple had gotten the wrong person.

He could not help but frown as he mumbled, "Among those who entered the Martial Emperor's secret treasure... Perhaps only Senior Brother Mo from our Izumo Sect and the other two from Anicca Sect and North Nether Sect have the ability to kill him."

"The one from North Nether Sect? He's from the same sect as Leng Ji, it's impossible that he would kill him... Could it be Senior Brother Mo or the one from Anicca Sect who killed Leng Ji?" The Izumo Sect's disciple could not help but speculate as he spoke with gleaming eyes.

"That's the only possibility... Apart from Senior Brother Mo and the one from Anicca Sect, I really can't think of anyone who's capable of killing Leng Ji!"

The last Izumo Sect disciple agreed wholeheartedly. "After all, even our Senior Brother Lei Jun, the second most powerful powerhouse in the current Izumo Sect, and Peng Bao, the second most powerful young man in the current Anicca Sect, might not be able to defeat Leng Ji, who had comprehended Earth Concept, in this place since he could get a boost from the Earth Energy."

"I did not expect Leng Ji, the most powerful person among the current North Nether Sect, would die here just like that." The Izumo Sect's disciple who recognized Leng Ji could not help but sigh as he spoke about how fragile life could be.

Naturally, Duan Ling Tian, who was heading toward the Martial Emperor's secret treasure in the central area with Huang Daniu, Su Li, and Zhang Shou Yong, had no idea that two scapegoats took the blame for him.

Huang Daniu who was traveling Duan Ling Tian and the other two frowned a little and said with concern, "I wonder how's Chen Wei doing."

"Chen Wei?"

When Duan Ling Tian heard what Huang Daniu said, he could not help but sigh and muttered, "He... He's dead."

"What?!"

Although Duan Ling Tian's voice was soft, Huang Daniu heard what he said. His expression changed dramatically. "Duan Ling Tian, is... Is what you said the truth?"

"Yes." Duan Ling Tian nodded, and he quickly told the story of him discovering Chen Wei's body and burying him. He did not leave out any details at all.

"Damn it!"

Huang Daniu's face turned ashen while his eyes turned red. He

could not help but shook his fists in the air. "If I find out who killed Chen Wei, I, Huang Daniu definitely won't let him go!"

He was closer to Chen Wei than Duan Ling Tian was.

Duan Ling Tian could not suppress his rage when he saw Chen Wei's body, let alone Huang Daniu who was hot-tempered. It was only natural for him to be so enraged.

Duan Ling Tian sighed and shook his head.

He knew very well in his heart that it was almost impossible to find out who killed Chen Wei!

It did not matter if the person was still alive, even if the person was alive, it was impossible for them to find out who killed Chen Wei if the person did not bring it up himself.

Duan Ling Tian and the other three continued on their journey, they were getting closer and closer to the Martial Emperor's secret treasure.

"Brother Ling Tian!"

When Duan Ling Tian and the other three entered a spacious cave a couple of days later, they heard a voice that came from the other side of the cave that contained a hint of surprise.

Duan Ling Tian thought the voice sounded a little familiar when he heard it, but he could not pinpoint where he had heard that voice before.

His eyes could not help but lit up when he saw one of the two young men who was approaching from afar as he turned his head around.

"Peng Bao!"

The person who called out his name was none other than the Anicca Sect's disciple, Peng Bao, that he had met once.

Although he only traded once with Peng Bao, the frankness that Peng Bao revealed subconsciously made Duan Ling Tian like him genuinely.

"Hmm?" Very quickly, the smile that appeared on Duan Ling Tian's face froze.

That was, because at that very moment, he realized that the muscular young man next to Peng Bao was glaring at him menacingly.

There was a hint of greed in the depth of the muscular young man's eyes.

Duan Ling Tian instantly figured out something. He surmised that this muscular young man had also heard the 'news' that was intentionally spread to frame him.

It was the news of him obtaining the Profundity Fragment.

Otherwise, that person would not glare at him in such a way considering it was the first time they met each other.

Since the muscular young man knew about it, it was only natural that Peng Bao knew about it as well.

Duan Ling Tian's eyes landed on Peng Bao again, he wanted to see what kind of emotion Peng Bao had when he looked at him. However, he noticed that there was no hostility in Peng Bao's eyes at all.

'Seems like I'm right about Peng Bao being a good person after all,' Duan Ling Tian thought with a jolt in his heart.

Perhaps Peng Bao heard about him obtaining the Profundity Fragment, but it did not rouse the greed in him. It could be considered rare.

"Brother Ling Tian, I didn't expect for us to meet here... Who are these three people?" Peng Bao greeted Duan Ling Tian while he looked at Huang Daniu, Su Li, and Zhang Shou Yong standing next to Duan Ling Tian.

"They're my friends." Duan Ling Tian smiled lightly.

Peng Bao nodded and smiled at Huang Daniu and the other two in a friendly manner. Huang Daniu and the other two were much relieved since Peng Bao did not show any superiority for being a second-rate force, Anicca Sect's disciple.

Duan Ling Tian looked at the muscular young man next to Peng Bao again. He asked Peng Bao as his eyes gleamed, "This is?"

The Spiritual Energy that he sent out told him that this muscular young man was at the Third Level Void Transformation just like Peng Bao and the black-clad young man that he killed not too long ago.

'This Anicca Sect has so many talents hiding in it... Peng Bao aside, it's a surprise that they have another disciple who is in no way inferior to Peng Bao.' Duan Ling Tian could not help but exclaim inwardly.

However, Duan Ling Tian soon found out that he misunderstood the fact.

"Brother Ling Tian, this is Lei Jun from Izumo Sect. He's the second most powerful powerhouse in the current Izumo Sect." Peng Bao introduced Lei Jun to Duan Ling Tian with a smile.

'Izumo Sect disciple?'

When Duan Ling Tian heard Peng Bao's introduction of Lei Jun, he knew that his guess was wrong. This muscular young man was not a disciple from Anicca Sect but Izumo Sect.

Although Duan Ling Tian was not interested in getting to know Lei Jun, he had to show respect to Peng Bao since he was introducing Lei Jun to him. He only smiled lightly at Lei Jun courteously and considered that a greeting.

However, the smile on his face froze once again.

That was because Lei Jun ignored the charming smile on his face completely as though he did not see it at all. Duan Ling Tian could not help but feel unhappy about it.

"Brother Ling Tian!"

At that moment, a clear voice entered Duan Ling Tian's ears. He could tell it was Peng Bao performing Voice Transmission.

'Hmm?'

Duan Ling Tian looked at Peng Bao immediately when he heard the voice. He could not help the doubt that appeared on his face since he did not know why Peng Bao used Voice Transmission.

"Brother Ling Tian, I heard that you've obtained a Profundity Fragment?" Peng Bao's voice entered Duan Ling Tian's ears, and his breath was shorter this time.

'Profundity Fragment?!'

Duan Ling Tian could not help but frown when he heard what Peng Bao said. The first thought that popped into his mind was Peng Bao believed the 'news' that was meant to frame him, and he wanted the Profundity Fragment as well.

Soon, Duan Ling Tian realized that he had misunderstood Peng Bao.

"Brother Ling Tian, don't take it the wrong way." Peng Bao seemed to be able to guess what Duan Ling Tian was thinking about when he saw him frowning. He explained through Voice Transmission immediately, "I just want to know which Profundity Fragment you obtained... I happen to have an Eighth Level Monarch Stage Thunder Profundity Fragment, and our Anicca Sect's senior officials can't use it."

"I'm thinking perhaps we can trade again if the Profundity Fragment that you have is useful to Anicca Sect's senior officials." Peng Bao revealed his plan without pretense.

'Trade?'

Duan Ling Tian's eyes narrowed when he heard Peng Bao

mentioned the Eighth Level Monarch Stage Thunder Profundity Fragment. Desperation filled the depth of his eyes.

His interest sparked as soon as Peng Bao was done speaking.

'I have a total of five Profundity Fragments in my hand... But I definitely won't trade the Seventh Level Monarch Stage Earth Profundity Fragment and the Eighth Level Monarch Stage Wind Profundity Fragment with him!'

Duan Ling Tian's heart jolted.

'That said, I'm only left with the three Profundity Fragments that I obtained from the Sword Monarch's treasure earlier... The three Profundity Fragments are all Third Level Monarch Stage Profundity Fragments.'

'Perhaps I can try trading the Third Level Monarch Stage Wind Profundity Fragment with him... As long as he's willing, I want the Eighth Level Monarch Stage Thunder Profundity Fragment that he has!'

'At that time, the Third Level Monarch Stage Thunder Profundity Fragments that I have are dispensable, and I'll give them to the Sect.'

Duan Ling Tian had a string of thoughts at that moment.

When he was pulled back into reality, Duan Ling Tian looked at Peng Bao immediately and said via Voice Transmission, "I'm just worried that you won't want to trade with me... The Profundity Fragment that I obtained is just a Third Level Monarch Stage Profundity Fragment."

'Third Level Monarch Stage Profundity Fragment?' As expected, Peng Bao could not help but frown when he heard what Duan Ling Tian said.

The difference between a Third Level Monarch Stage Profundity Fragment and an Eighth Level Monarch Stage Profundity Fragment was like heaven and earth to a Monarch Stage martial artist.

However, for a Peak Void martial artist who wanted to use the Profundity Fragment to break through to the Monarch Stage, the difference between the two types of Profundity Fragments was minor.

Chapter 979: Trade

When Duan Ling Tian saw Peng Bao frowning, he could not help but feel as though his heart was being suspended at that moment.

Although he was confident he could kill Peng Bao and take the Eighth Level Monarch Stage Thunder Profundity Fragment from him, he did not even think of doing that.

He thought to himself, he might not be able to defeat Peng Bao if he did not use the amulet when he first met Peng Bao. Moreover, to Peng Bao at that time, he was just an ordinary disciple from a third-rate force and taking the Concept Fragment from him would be easy.

However, Peng Bao did not do that and traded his Concept Fragment the right way instead.

That was why he genuinely liked Peng Bao.

Now that the situation had turned around, it was only natural for him to treat Peng Bao the same way instead of robbing him. He made this decision despite acknowledging that he, himself was a scoundrel since he did not have any qualms about snatching treasures away from people he did not know. However, the person he encountered this time was Peng Bao. The Peng Bao who did not rob the Concept Fragment that he had just because he was a disciple of a third-rate force.

Naturally, Peng Bao had no idea what Duan Ling Tian was thinking at the moment.

If he knew Duan Ling Tian's current ability, and his thoughts at the moment, he would definitely feel fortunate that he managed to escape the threat.

"What kind of Profundity Fragment do you have with you?"

Just when Duan Ling Tian was hesitating, Peng Bao's voice entered his ears again. It was crystal clear.

Suddenly, Duan Ling Tian's eyes lit up. He could tell Peng Bao was interested in the Profundity Fragment he had.

Duan Ling Tian looked at Peng Bao and said with Voice Transmission word by word, "It's the Wind Profundity Fragment!"

Very quickly, he saw the joy that flashed in Peng Bao's eyes.

He was excited when he saw that and could not help but exclaim inwardly, 'Here's my chance!'

It was natural that he was in a difficult situation before joy flashed in Peng Bao's eyes.

Speaking of value, the Eighth Level Monarch Stage Thunder Profundity Fragment that Peng Bao possessed was undoubtedly much higher than the Third Level Monarch Stage Wind Profundity Fragment that Duan Ling Tian had.

However, none of the Anicca Sect's senior officials could use the Thunder Profundity Fragment since none of them had comprehended the Ninth Level Advanced Thunder Concept.

Only martial artists who had comprehended the Ninth Level Advanced Thunder Concept could comprehend Thunder Profundity from the Thunder Profundity Fragment to achieve the Monarch Stage.

Meanwhile, the Anicca Sect Leader, the second most powerful powerhouse in Anicca Sect who was his master as well, could use the Wind Profundity Fragment.

'As soon as master obtains the Wind Profundity Fragment that Duan Ling Tian has, he can definitely break through to the Monarch Stage instantly and become the second most powerful Monarch Stage powerhouse in Anicca Sect!' Peng Bao's heart thumped with excitement as he thought about this.

However, although he was excited, he could not help but think of the grade of the Monarch Stage Wind Profundity Fragment that Duan Ling Tian possessed. Out of nowhere, a hint of bitterness appeared at the edges of his lips.

Finally, Peng Bao made up his mind.

'Trade!'

For the most part, the Eighth Level Monarch Stage Thunder Profundity Fragment that he had was much more precious than Duan Ling Tian's Third Level Monarch Stage Wind Profundity Fragment. However, the problem was even if he brought the Eighth Level Monarch Stage Thunder Profundity Fragment that he possessed back to Anicca Sect, it was impossible for Anicca Sect to produce a Monarch Stage powerhouse in such a short period of time.

It would take ages for anyone in Anicca Sect to comprehend the Ninth Level Advanced Thunder Concept and ascend to a Ninth Level Void Transformation martial artist by comprehending the Thunder Profundity with the help of the Thunder Profundity Fragment.

To the current Anicca Sect, the Third Level Monarch Stage Wind Profundity Fragment's value was much higher than the Eighth Level Monarch Stage Thunder Profundity Fragment.

Peng Bao looked at Duan Ling Tian with desperation written in his eyes and asked through Voice Transmission, "Brother Ling Tian, I'll trade the Eighth Level Monarch Stage Thunder Profundity Fragment that I have with your Third Level Monarch Stage Wind Profundity Fragment... Are you willing to do that?"

Duan Ling Tian did not say a word and lifted his hand as quick as lightning. A fragment that shone with green energy was thrown from his hand toward Peng Bao.

He used his straightforward action to answer Peng Bao's question.

Peng Bao did not expect Duan Ling Tian to be so outright and

trusted him to the extent where he just tossed the Third Level Monarch Stage Wind Profundity Fragment to him just like that.

'Isn't he afraid I'll leave with the Profundity Fragment?'

Although Peng Bao thought of that, he, naturally, did not delay his action at all. He took out a fragment that was shining with purple energy and tossed it to Duan Ling Tian at the same time he caught the Wind Profundity Fragment.

It was the Eighth Level Monarch Stage Thunder Profundity Fragment that Duan Ling Tian wanted.

'Pa!'

Duan Ling Tian extended his arm like lightning and caught the Thunder Profundity Fragment tightly in his hand.

'What a steal!'

At this moment, although Duan Ling Tian tried his best to maintain the calm expression on his face, he could not help the excitement that filled his heart.

He traded his Third Level Monarch Stage Profundity Fragment for an Eighth Level Monarch Stage Profundity Fragment.

Many people's jaws would drop if the news spread out!

The trade of the Profundity Fragments between Duan Ling Tian and Peng Bao was quick like lightning. Even Huang Daniu, Su Li, and Zhang Shou Yong did not see their movements clearly.

However, there was another person there apart from the duo, Huang Daniu, and the other two.

It was Lei Jun, the second most powerful powerhouse in the current Izumo Sect.

He saw everything Duan Ling Tian and Peng Bao did from the beginning until the end before his eyes.

The way he looked at Duan Ling Tian was filled with greed,

especially when he traded the Profundity Fragment with Peng Bao. If it was not for Peng Bao's sake, he would have taken action.

Naturally, Duan Ling Tian saw how Lei Jun was looking at him, but he ignored it.

His mind was occupied with the Eighth Level Monarch Stage Thunder Profundity Fragment in his hand. He put the precious treasure that he had just obtained away in his Spatial Ring as he thought to himself, 'Now the three Concepts of nature that I comprehended have their relative high-grade Monarch Stage Profundity Fragments... As soon as I comprehend them to the Ninth Advanced Level, I can use the three Profundity Fragments to elevate them further to the Monarch Stage Profundity!'

When Duan Ling Tian thought about this, a rush of excitement filled his body.

Even if he only had one Profundity Fragment that he could use, it meant that he was one step closer to achieving Monarch Stage. However, he had now obtained the relative Profundity Fragments for the four types of Concepts that he comprehended.

'Seventh Level Monarch Stage Earth Profundity Fragment, Eighth Level Monarch Stage Wind Profundity Fragment, Eight Level Monarch Stage Thunder Profundity Fragment, and Third Level Monarch Stage Sword Profundity Fragment...'

'As for the Third Level Monarch Stage Thunder Profundity Fragment, I'll give that to the Sect!' Duan Ling Tian planned secretly.

Initially, he had planned to give the Third Level Monarch Stage Wind Profundity Fragment to the Sect after killing the black-clad young man he suspected to be a North Nether Sect's disciple and obtained the Eighth Level Monarch Stage Profundity Fragment from him.

Unexpectedly, his meeting with Peng Bao presented him with

such a great opportunity.

Trading a Third Level Monarch Stage Wind Profundity Fragment with Peng Bao's Eighth Level Monarch Stage Thunder Profundity Fragment was such a steal.

Naturally, it was impossible for him to give the Third Level Monarch Stage Wind Profundity Fragment to the Sect since it was with Peng Bao now.

Therefore, he could only give another Profundity Fragment that he possessed.

Coincidentally, since he obtained the Eighth Level Monarch Stage Thunder Profundity Fragment from Peng Bao, the other Third Level Monarch Stage Thunder Profundity Fragment that he possessed became dispensable. He could give that to the Sect.

'There are a total of five Profundity Fragments in the outer ring of the Martial Emperor's secret treasure... Now that I have three of them, who could have obtained the other two?' Duan Ling Tian could not help but wonder as his eyes gleamed.

"Brother Ling Tian, I supposed you are all heading to the central area of the Martial Emperor's secret treasure?"

Suddenly, a voice entered Duan Ling Tian's ears. After he was pulled back to reality, he turned toward the source of the voice and saw Peng Bao smiling as he looked at him.

"Yes." Duan Ling Tian nodded.

"If that's the case, let's go there together... We're going there as well," Peng Bao suggested.

"Sure," Duan Ling Tian agreed instantly.

However, Lei Jun who was standing at the side looked extremely unpleasant after hearing what Peng Bao said.

The reason Peng Bao did this was naturally to protect Duan Ling Tian so Lei Jun would not be interested in robbing the Profundity Fragment from Duan Ling Tian.

"Peng Bao, since you have gotten what you need... Then there's no need for us to work together anymore!"

A menacing gleam flashed in Lei Jun's eyes as he looked at Peng Bao, the glare soon shifted to Duan Ling Tian. The killing intent was rising, it was as though he could not wait to kill Duan Ling Tian to have a peace of mind.

'Whoosh!'

Lei Jun dashed out as soon as he was done speaking, he was headed in the direction of the central area of the Martial Emperor's secret treasure. He disappeared before Duan Ling Tian and the others' eyes in an instant.

Peng Bao did not care much about Lei Jun's departure, and Duan Ling Tian naturally did not care at all.

After asking Hua Daniu and the other two to come along, they headed toward the central area of the Martial Emperor's secret treasure together.

The objective of their journey was to search and fight the other young powerhouses for treasures when they arrived at the central area of the Martial Emperor's secret treasure. If they managed to live, each of them would have to exit from the cave that they entered.

'Whoosh! Whoosh!'

• • •

The five of them were quick, and they were getting closer and closer to the central area.

"Peng Bao, since you're an Anicca Sect's disciple, you must know something about the disciples from North Nether Sect?" Duan Ling Tian asked Peng Bao curiously while they were on the way.

"North Nether Sect's disciples... I know a few of them who are

rather remarkable."

Peng Bao said, "Why did you ask that out of nowhere? Do you have friends from North Nether Sect?"

"No."

Duan Ling Tian shook his head and casually said, "I'm just asking... Is there a young powerhouse who comprehends the Third Level Advanced Earth Concept and achieved Third Level Void Transformation in North Nether Sect?"

"Are you talking about Leng Ji?"

Peng Bao could not help but be stunned as soon as Duan Ling Tian was done speaking.

Chapter 980: Lei Jun!

"Leng Ji?"

Duan Ling Tian raised his brows, the silhouette of the black-clad young man he killed not too long ago appeared in his head.

'Seems like he's really a disciple from the North Nether Sect.'

"Yes." Peng Bao nodded.

"Among the young men in the current North Nether Sect, a disciple who comprehended the Third Level Advanced Earth Concept as well as being a martial artist at the Third Level Void Transformation... Leng Ji is the only one who achieved all that."

There was fear in Peng Bao's tone when he said, "Leng Ji is the second most powerful powerhouse in the current North Nether Sect. His ability is extraordinary! We're on equal standing if we're to fight in a high altitude... But if I encounter him in the Martial Emperor's secret treasure, I'm nothing compared to him."

Duan Ling Tian nodded. Naturally, he knew the reason why Peng Bao said that.

The Martial Emperor's secret treasure was made of hidden caves deep underground. Each and every corner allowed martial artists who had comprehended Earth Concept to connect and get a boost from the Earth Energy as much as they wanted.

"So that fellow was called Leng Ji!"

At that moment, Huang Daniu nodded at the side in realization. After a while, he could not help but sneer. "So what if he's the second most powerful powerhouse in the current North Nether Sect? Duan Ling Tian killed him just like that!"

There was pride on Huang Daniu's face the more he spoke as though it was him who killed Leng Ji instead of Duan Ling Tian.

What Huang Daniu said did not receive any reactions from Duan

Ling Tian, Su Li, and Zhang Shou Yong.

However, Peng Bao was stunned. It was as though he was struck by lightning when he heard what Huang Daniu said. He immediately stopped moving.

When Duan Ling Tian and the others saw Peng Bao had stopped, they followed suit.

"Bro... Brother Ling Tian, you... you killed Leng Ji?"

Peng Bao looked at Duan Ling Tian. His eyes were wide open as shock and disbelief filled his tone.

Although he could faintly guess Duan Ling Tian had an extraordinary ability when he found out that he had obtained the Profundity Fragment, Duan Ling Tian was much more powerful than he had imagined.

However, he did not expect Duan Ling Tian to possess the ability to kill Leng Ji!

Leng Ji had the same cultivation base as he did while the Concepts that he had comprehended were similar to him as well.

However, he would definitely be defeated if he fought Leng Ji in the Martial Emperor's secret treasure.

Leng Ji had comprehended Earth Concept, and he could use Earth Energy in the Martial Emperor's secret treasure as much as he wanted. That meant he was able to boost his Earth Concept by half.

Duan Ling Tian only nodded lightly in response to Peng Bao's questioning. His face was relaxed as though killing Leng Ji was nothing worth mentioning to him.

Naturally, it was indeed nothing worth mentioning in reality.

If he chose to attack first, and the energy in his body was unrestrained, he could display the strength of ancient horned dragons that was two hundred times more powerful than Leng Ji.

One blow was all he needed to kill Leng Ji!

When he saw Duan Ling Tian's casual nod in response to his question, the edges of Peng Bao's lips twitched, and the first thing that popped into his mind was 'Monster!'

Such a terrifying disciple had appeared in the third-rate force, the Five Element Sect. A hint of shock rose from the bottom of his heart.

The purple-clad young man before him was only twenty-five years of age at most.

Even if he managed to slow down aging with his high cultivation base and took good care of his body, his real age definitely would not exceed thirty.

Peng Bao was certain of that.

That was the reason why he found it shocking and even unbelievable.

"Let's go!"

Peng Bao continued on their journey together to the central area of the Martial Emperor's secret treasure with Duan Ling Tian and the others after Duan Ling Tian called out to him.

However, he would occasionally look at Duan Ling Tian along the way.

This young man could be considered as the ultimate freak for being able to kill Leng Ji who could utilize the Earth Energy...

'How powerful is his ability exactly?'

'Luckily I didn't think of robbing the Ninth Level Saber Concept from him back then... Otherwise, I'll be the one who's dead instead of him!'

Peng Bao's heart could not help but beat faster when he recalled the scene when he first traded with Duan Ling Tian when they first met. He remembered the trade clearly until today.

He traded his Ninth Level Earth Concept Fragment with Duan Ling Tian's Ninth Level Saber Concept Fragment.

At that time, to him, Duan Ling Tian was just a naive boy from a third-rate force whose ability was weak and not worth mentioning.

His face was a little flushed when he recalled advising Duan Ling Tuan before they parted ways.

'This time as well... Luckily, I wasn't greedy for Brother Ling Tian's Third Level Monarch Stage Profundity Fragment. Fighting for the Profundity Fragment for the Sect aside, I might not even come out alive.' Peng Bao was hit with a wave of anxiety when he thought about this.

'It's silly that I was afraid Lei Jun would attack Brother Ling Tian for the Profundity Fragment... That Lei Jun's ability is on par with me, but he's nothing compared to Leng Ji in the Martial Emperor's secret treasure!' Peng Bao mocked himself for underestimating Duan Ling Tian earlier.

'Brother Ling Tian even managed to kill Leng Ji... If Lei Jun dares to offend Brother Ling Tian, he'll undoubtedly die!'

Naturally, Duan Ling Tian had no idea what Peng Bao was thinking about.

His mind was currently occupied with getting to the central area of the Martial Emperor's secret treasure.

That place was an unknown existence to him. The unknown was also the most terrifying since nobody knew what could happen in there.

'According to the Martial Emperor's message, there's a palace in the central area of the Martial Emperor's secret treasure... It's the place where he ended his life!' Duan Ling Tian recalled the information in the message the Martial Emperor left after they entered the Martial Emperor's secret treasure. 'It's definitely going to be a difficult task to obtain the three Profundity Fragments in his body from the palace!' Duan Ling Tian had a strong gut feeling about that.

Naturally, he had such an instinct due to the Rebirth Martial Emperor's memories that he had merged with.

According to the Rebirth Martial Emperor's thoughts that he retrieved from the memory, if a Martial Emperor really did leave behind the place that he died in and an Emperor Stage Profundity, he definitely would not let anyone reach it easily.

To a Martial Emperor, only the most outstanding person was worthy of his Emperor Stage Profundity.

Three days later.

'Hmm?'

Duan Ling Tian stopped moving, the four people following him stopped as well, and they stood next to him.

When they stopped, they realized that there was no way ahead of them.

They were currently in a spacious cave. There were three paths each on both sides of the cave connected to the other cave. They looked lost, they had no idea which path really led to the central area of the Martial Emperor's secret treasure.

"Should we split up?" Huang Daniu took the initiative and suggested.

"I guess that's the only way to do it." Duan Ling Tian nodded, and his eyes landed on the entrance of the cave that was further on the left side. "I'll go there."

Duan Ling Tian then looked at the cave entrance that was further on the right side and said to Peng Bao, "Peng Bao will go there."

Peng Bao nodded, he did not have any opinion on that.

"Daniu, Su Li, and Big Brother Zhang... Three of you will stick

together and investigate the other cave entrance. No matter what we find, we'll meet here again after a day." Duan Ling Tian looked at Huang Daniu, Su Li, and Zhang Shou Yong.

Their abilities were the weakest among the five of them. For their own safety, Duan Ling Tian had them work together.

"Sure!" Huang Daniu and the other two responded immediately.

"Hmm." Duan Ling nodded at the four of them and turned into a bolt of purple lighting immediately. He then dashed into the cave entrance that was further on the left of the cave in an attempt to explore the situation there.

Peng Bao was the next one who dashed away and entered the cave entrance that was further on the right side.

Meanwhile, Huang Daniu and the other two entered the other cave entrance.

As the three of them moved, a silhouette appeared at the cave entrance outside. It was the silhouette of a muscular person.

"Peng Bao... Let's see how you're going to protect that Duan Ling Tian this time!"

The muscular silhouette belonged to Lei Jun!

Ever since he parted ways with Duan Ling Tian and the other four the other day, he had been heading toward the central area of the Martial Emperor's secret treasure on his own and arrived here.

Since he had gotten here with the help of a thousand ancient horned dragons' strength, he found the correct path leading to the central area in an instant.

The correct path was behind the cave entrance on the further right of the cave. It was the one Peng Bao was checking out.

After determining the correct path to the central area of the Martial Emperor's secret treasure, an idea popped into his head when he was going to continue on his journey. He realized that this

place was the only opportunity for him to kill Duan Ling Tian and obtain the Profundity Fragment from him!

'Eighth Level Monarch Stage Thunder Profundity Fragment!'

An avaricious glow flashed in Lei Jun's eyes. As he sprinted, his body was filled with purple lightning that surrounded him. He sprinted and disappeared into the cave entrance that was on the further left in the cave.

His target was none other than Duan Ling Tian.

To be exact, the Eighth Level Monarch Stage Thunder Profundity Fragment in Duan Ling Tian's hands.

Naturally, Duan Ling Tian had no idea Lei Jun was hiding in there, neither did he know Lei Jun was on his way to him.

'Whoosh!'

Origin Energy ran rampant in Duan Ling Tian's body as he dashed into the cave entrance on the left side of the cave. The four Concepts followed him like shadows, and it also complemented his body that looked like it transformed into a gigantic sword that was covered in khaki energy, purple lightning, and green energy.

'Whoosh!'

The gigantic sword dashed from one cave to another in an attempt to find the path to the central area of the Martial Emperor's secret treasure.

Time passed by silently, and soon, half a day had gone by.

At this moment, Duan Ling Tian had investigated the situation on his side thoroughly. It was an unsolvable maze, and there was no other way to proceed apart from turning back.

'I'll head back first... Perhaps, they'll have some clues on their side,' Duan Ling Tian thought to himself and began to turn back.

Just when he was nearing the cave entrance that he entered from earlier, Duan Ling Tian who was sprinting suddenly halted his movement. A cold gleam filled his eyes as he stared at the muscular young man not far away.

"Lei Jun!"

Chapter 981: Lift and Smash!

Lei Jun, the second most powerful powerhouse in the current Izumo Sect.

When he bumped into Peng Bao a couple of days ago, he had formed a small team with the objective of finding and fighting for Profundity Fragments.

Duan Ling Tian noticed the greed that Lei Jun had revealed in his eyes when he first met Lei Jun.

It was the kind of greed that spoke of how he could not wait to kill Duan Ling Tian and take his Spatial Ring as his own.

However, Duan Ling Tian did not care about Lei Jun, and he did not consider Lei Jun a threat.

Lei Jun fell out with Peng Bao when he realized Peng Bao was on Duan Ling Tian's side and had intentionally protected him. He left and continued the journey on his own.

'This man sure knows how to linger.'

Duan Ling Tian narrowed both his eyes and stared at him calmly as he stood far away.

Meanwhile, Lei Jun who seemed to have waited for him for a long time mumbled as the edges of his lips moved lightly, "Duan Ling Tian, if you're smart, give me the Eighth Level Monarch Stage Thunder Profundity Fragment that you traded with Peng Bao... If you do so, perhaps I'll keep your dead body in one piece!"

Lei Jun's eyes lit up when he saw Duan Ling Tian appeared before him. He flew and was soon near Duan Ling Tian. He stared into his eyes, and his tone was filled with superiority.

The arrogant way he was looking at Duan Ling Tian seemed like he was looking at a dead person rather than a living human.

Perhaps in his eyes, it was impossible for Duan Ling Tian to walk

out from this place alive today.

"Give you the Profundity Fragment, and you'll keep my dead body in one piece?"

When Duan Ling Tian heard what Lei Jun said, he was stunned at first, but very quickly, he smiled. His smile was charming. "Lei Jun, since you said that... Should I thank you for the mercy you showed me?"

"Of course!"

Lei Jun did not seem to understand the sarcasm in Duan Ling Tian's words as he said with arrogance, "The people that I've killed... If I'm gentle, they would be blown into a few pieces. If it's severe, they would turn into pieces of meat that fly all over the place! Of course, you'll have to thank me for showing you mercy by keeping your dead body intact."

Lei Jun wore a maniacal smile on his face as he spoke. His eyes gleamed coldly with a killing intent as though he would devour anybody who approached him.

Duan Ling Tian's face did not reveal even a hint of fear contrary to Lei Jun's expectation. Instead, he looked at Lei Jun as though he was an idiot and took his time to remarked, "Dumbass!"

"Dumbass?" Lei Jun was stunned, he was completely stunned.

This Duan Ling Tian was only a third-rate force disciple, how dare he called him a dumbass?

"You b*stard!" Lei Jun who snapped back to reality shouted suddenly, and his rage soared to its peak.

At the same time, Origin Energy swept over his entire body and turned into bolts and bolts of purple lightning. They were similar to thick purple electric snakes that surrounded and lingered on his body.

'Bang! Bang! Bang! Bang!'

...

Almost as soon as the Origin Energy on Lei Jun's body turned into bolts of purple lightning, a thunderous rumble was created.

Meanwhile, the Heaven and Earth Energy was rumbling in the sky above his head and proceeded to transform into Heaven and Earth Phenomenon.

There was a total of eight hundred ancient horned dragons' silhouettes hovering in the sky. They looked alive as though they would charge at Duan Ling at any given time.

Third Level Void Transformation!

Third Level Advanced Thunder Concept!

Faced with the Thunder Concept Lei Jun integrated with his Origin Energy that resulted in bolts of purple lightning energy surrounding his body, Duan Ling Tian asked slowly with a relaxed expression, "That's... That's all you have?"

Duan Ling Tian's voice had a hint of insult in it.

"Duan Ling Tian, since you're asking for it... I'll make your dream come true!!"

Lei Jun was initially provoked by Duan Ling Tian, but his rage had subsided a lot when the energy swept through his body.

However, after hearing what Duan Ling Tian said, his emotion that had only just calmed down could no longer be restrained, and it completely exploded.

'Bang!!'

Lei Jun stomped both feet on the ground, creating ferocious cracks on the ground. They spread out fast like a gigantic spider web.

With the help of the momentum from his stomps, his entire body flew out like a bolt of lightning and dashed toward Duan Ling Tian. 'Bang! Bang! Bang! Bang!'

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A deafening sound of thunder mixed with air explosion sound trailed after Lei Jun in the places he passed by.

At the same time, waves of invisible air current spread out as a gust of strong wind blew from all directions. Sand and dust were flying everywhere around the cave.

'Bang!'

Lei Jun arrived before Duan Ling Tian in an instant, and he punched with his fist without using any spirit weapon. The punch was like a bullet shooting at Duan Ling Tian with the intention to kill him.

The punch that contained eight hundred ancient horned dragons' strength and intertwined with purple lightning rushed toward Duan Ling Tian as though it was going to destroy him!

At the same time, Lei Jun smirked as he looked at Duan Ling Tian who stood unmoving before his eyes.

To him, the reason Duan Ling Tian was unresponsive was due to his alarming speed.

Faced with his attack, this young disciple from just a third-rate force had yet to respond to such a speed.

"Indeed, a disciple from a third-rate force has a third-rate ability... You're like an ant before me!"

Just when Lei Jun expressed his disdain and thought that the punch that he had thrown was going to end Duan Ling Tian's life immediately, he was shocked to find a terrifying resistance when his fist was just a stone's throw away from Duan Ling Tian.

'Baam!" A light noise was heard.

The sound came from Lei Jun's fist that was filled with rampant energy, and Duan Ling Tian caught it easily with his lightning-fast hand when it was about to land on him.

Lei Jun's fist that contained eight hundred ancient horned dragons' strength was like a meteor falling when he threw that punch out. However, it was similar to falling on a bale of cotton when it landed in Duan Ling Tian's hand. There was no force behind the attack at all.

Lei Jun's expression changed dramatically when the fist he threw out menacingly was easily caught by Duan Ling Tian's bare hand.

At this moment, no matter how dumb he was, he came to a clear conclusion that the power this purple-clad young man before him possessed was far above what he had!

Just when Lei Jun planned to retract his fist from Duan Ling Tian's hand that was like a pincer so that he could turn around and leave, his eyes narrowed instantly.

At this moment, he was shocked to see the Heaven and Earth Phenomenon that appeared above the purple-clad young man's head without him knowing when. There was a total of 1,100 ancient horned dragons' silhouettes writhing as they descended.

What he was seeing with his eyes gave him a great shock.

1,1000 ancient horned dragons' strength without using any spirit weapon?!

Compared to the energy he had on his fist, that was three hundred ancient horned dragons' strength more than what he had.

When Lei Jun saw the 1,100 ancient horned dragons' silhouettes before his eyes, he completely lost his bravery.

"Sh*t!!"

Very quickly, Lei Jun's facial expression changed again. It was filled with despair when he realized Duan Ling Tian's strength could end his life easily.

At the same time, he instinctively tried to retract his fist from

Duan Ling Tian's hand.

However, his fist seemed to be rooted in Duan Ling Tian's hand, he could not get it out at all.

"Ahh!!"

In the next second, an intense pain that came from his fist and permeated his entire body caused Lei Jun to release a devastating shriek from the bottom of his lungs.

The devastating shriek sounded like it came from his heart and lungs being torn apart, giving anyone who heard it a numbing sensation on their scalps.

The arm that Duan Ling Tian used to hold Lei Jun's fist was merged with four types of Concepts, it shook abruptly and destroyed all of the purple lightning that surrounded Lei Jun's fist.

It was the resulting energy when Lei Jun merged his Origin Energy with Thunder Concept.

After getting rid of the energy surrounding Lei Jun's fist, Duan Ling Tian pressed his hand on Lei Jun's body, and the energy surrounding it swept through destructively.

"Ahh!!"

Lei Jun's body trembled, and his face turned pale, he could not help but spit out a mouthful of blood.

When Lei Jun had just caught his breath, he realized what Duan Ling Tian was going to do when he saw him launching his next move. His expression changed greatly, and he screamed in panic, "No!!"

Unfortunately, Duan Ling Tian ignored Lei Jun's scream as though he did not hear it at all.

At the same time, Duan Ling Tian proceeded to hold on to Lei Jun's fist tightly and lifted his arm suddenly. He lifted Lei Jun up entirely as he stared at the wall nearby with a cold gleam flashing in his eyes.

'Whirr! Whirr! Whirr!'

• • •

'Whoosh!'

Duan Ling Tian lifted Lei Jun up and spun him in the air a couple of times like he was a windmill. He then let him go and threw him against the wall nearby like an arrow that was shot out of its bow.

'Bang!'

A loud bang sounded as gravels from the wall flew out. Lei Jun smashed into the cave's wall and turned into a slab of meat. The scene of him hanging on the wall was a terrifying scene to behold.

The scene before his eyes looked very much like an abstract painting on Earth where Duan Ling Tian used to live in his past life.

Lei Jun had completely lost his breath, he could not be any more dead than this.

Although Lei Jun tried to activate the energy in his body, in an attempt to break away from Duan Ling Tian's control, many times when he was being lifted and was about to be smashed, his energy would always be suppressed by Duan Ling Tian's energy mercilessly as soon as he muster his energy out each time.

Therefore, there was no energy of any sort to shield Lei Jun when he was lifted and thrown.

His body was made out of flesh and blood after all, how could it possible for him to resist Duan Ling Tian's strength or being smashed into the wall that was as tough as steel?

Thus, Lei Jun was smashed to death by Duan Ling Tian without any obstacles at all!

From the beginning until the end, Lei Jun did not even have the chance to bring out the grade one spirit weapon glove from his Spatial Ring.

However, even if he managed to use any spirit weapon, he would not be able to escape the same ending because Duan Ling Tian did not use any spirit weapon either.

"Greed has caused so many deaths..."

Duan Ling Tian shook his head and sighed in low spirit. He put Lei Jun's Spatial Ring away and proceeded to walk out of the cave entrance that he entered from previously without even turning his head.

It did not matter if it was Lei Jun whom he had just killed or Leng Ji whom he had killed previously, both of them faced the same ending because they were eyeing his Profundity Fragment.

Soon, Duan Ling Tian returned to the spacious cave while he waited for news that Peng Bao, Huang Daniu, and the other two would bring.

Chapter 982: Central Palace

Shortly after, three figures flew out from the center-left entrance of the cave and appeared before Duan Ling Tian.

They were Huang Daniu, Su Li, and Zhang Shou Yong.

Duan Ling Tian's eyes brightened when he saw the three of them, and he asked with a hopeful face, "How is it?"

The three of them shook their heads.

"It was an unsolvable maze... We traveled to every corner and found no other exit," Huang Daniu said with a bitter smile.

It was apparent they were in the same boat as Duan Ling Tian.

"Looks like we'll have to wait for Peng Bao." When Duan Ling Tian heard Huang Daniu's reply, he nodded with slight disappointment. "If the path Peng Bao took isn't the way to the central area, we'll have to split up and check out the three remaining entrances." Having said that, Duan Ling Tian looked at the remaining entrances that had not been explored at both sides of the cave. So far, they still did not know the situation inside these three entrances.

One hour passed quickly.

"Peng Bao's still not back?" Huang Daniu, Su Li, and Zhang Shou Yong could not help but furrow their brows.

"Here he comes!" Duan Ling Tian focused his gaze and stared at the entrance on the furthest right. With his sharp hearing, he could clearly hear the rapid wind howling from inside.

The sound got nearer and nearer!

Shou!

Soon, there was dust all over the entrance.

Following that, a familiar figure flew out from the entrance and

appeared before Duan Ling Tian and the others. It was Peng Bao.

As soon as Peng Bao appeared, he immediately smiled at Duan Ling Tian and the others before he said, "This is the road to the central area."

When the four of them heard his words, their eyes lit up instantly.

The five of them departed immediately. They entered the entrance at the furthest right and continued traveling toward the central area of the Martial Emperor's secret treasure.

As time went by, they were also getting closer and closer to the central area.

Meanwhile, a lot of people were also drawing closer and closer in every direction to the central area of the Martial Emperor's secret treasure.

Two days later.

"We've arrived?" When Duan Ling Tian saw the empty opening in the distance, his flashing figure gradually slowed down. He had successfully arrived at the location of the entrance.

Duan Ling Tian stood before the entrance, what appeared before his eyes were different from the entrances he had seen countless of time.

The entrance before him was huge and spacious, it revealed a completely new world.

To compare the entrance with the huge cave outside, it was just a hole high up on one side of the cave. There were countless similar holes around the wall of this huge cave.

However, Duan Ling Tian did not have time to ponder on that.

His gaze immediately landed in the middle of the cave.

A gigantic palace stood there.

The seemingly magnificent and gigantic palace stood there like a sleeping beast that exuded an intimidating aura.

"This palace is the palace mentioned in the Martial Emperor's message? His final resting place when he died?"

Unknowingly, Peng Bao had caught up and stood beside Duan Ling Tian. He was surprised as he sized up the gigantic palace that stood in the middle of the huge cave.

"The Martial Emperor's body is inside this palace?" Huang Daniu had also caught up with them. His eyes were shining as he looked at the palace, and his breath quickened involuntarily.

According to the Martial Emperor's message, there was a total of three Profundity Fragments in his body. One of it was an Emperor Stage Profundity fragment, and the other two were Monarch Stage Profundity Fragments.

Put aside the two Monarch Stage Profundity Fragments, just the Emperor Stage Profundity Fragment was enough to drive everybody crazy.

Although Su Li and Zhang Shou Yong remained silent, their burning gazes on the palace before them betrayed their inner thoughts.

The palace stood in the huge cave as though it was a humongous statue, it exuded an ancient aura as though it had seen the vicissitudes of life, and it spoke of the history of its existence to the ones who came.

"Someone's there." Su Li's sharp eyes quickly spotted three figures standing slightly apart in the air on the other side of the palace.

It was obvious the three of them had arrived before them.

Since the palace mentioned in the Martial Emperor's message had appeared, this place was undoubtedly their destination.

The central area of Martial Emperor's secret treasure.

"Senior Brother Zuo!" Peng Bao's low voice sounded in their ears once Su Li stopped talking.

They followed Peng Bao's gaze to the distance and immediately saw a green figure hovering in mid-air.

Originally, the green-clad young man stood there resting with his eyes closed.

However, when Duan Ling Tian and the others' gazes were trained on him, he opened his eyes as if he was aware of their gazes. His razor-sharp gaze was immediately focused on the direction of Duan Ling Tian and the others.

"Let's go! Let me introduce you to Senior Brother Zuo!" Duan Ling Tian and the three other people flew out along with Peng Bao. They stopped near the green-clad young man in just a moment.

"Senior Brother Zuo." Peng Bao's voice was laced with respect when he greeted the green-clad young man, it was the kind of respect that came from the depth of his heart.

"Junior Brother Peng." The green-clad young man nodded at Peng Bao, but he did not acknowledge Duan Ling Tian and the others. Although it was not offensive, it showed his confidence and aloofness.

In this regard, the four of them were not surprised.

"It seems this is Zuo Yue whom Peng Bao previously mentioned to us."

At this moment, Huang Daniu's Voice Transmission was clearly transmitted to Duan Ling Tian, Su Li, and Zhang Shou Yong's ears. They were communicating secretly.

"It should be him." Su Li and Zhang Shou Yong nodded.

'Zuo Yue!' Duan Ling Tian's eyebrows rose, the words that Peng Bao said while they were on the road seemed to echo in his ears.

"Among the younger generation in Anicca Sect, I'm only the second strongest."

"The strongest among the younger generation in Anicca Sect is my Senior Brother Zuo. His full name is Zuo Yue, and he's the Anicca Sect's supreme elder's only direct disciple!"

"Anicca Sect's supreme elder is the only Martial Monarch powerhouse in Anicca Sect!"

Zuo Yue.

The strongest person among the younger generation in Anicca Sect.

The direct disciple of a Martial Monarch powerhouse.

Any one of the two titles was shocking enough.

The combination of the two made Zuo Yue the brightest star in Anicca Sect.

Peng Bao could not help but feel awkward when he realized Zuo Yue did not even deign to look at Duan Ling Tian and the others in the eyes. He smiled apologetically at them.

Duan Ling Tian and the others returned a smile and expressed that it did not matter.

Since he was Zuo Yue, he was entitled to be so arrogant.

"Senior Brother Zuo, these are my friends... These are Duan Ling Tian, Huang Daniu, Su Li, and Zhang Shou Yong," Peng Bao introduced them one by one to Zuo Yue.

When he mentioned Duan Ling Tian, Zuo Yue, who was standing there indifferently and confidently, looked at Duan Ling Tian immediately. He did not even listen to what Peng Bao said after that.

"You're Duan Ling Tian?!" Zuo Yue stared at Duan Ling Tian. Even someone as aloof as him could not help but reveal greed in the depth of his eyes. "That disciple from the third-rate force, the Five Element Sect?"

"You're right, I'm that Duan Ling Tian." When Duan Ling Tian saw the greed in Zuo Yue's eyes, he was certain, without the need to ponder on it, that Zuo Yue had heard the news of him possessing a Profundity Fragment!

Peng Bao's face changed dramatically when he sensed the smell of gunpowder between Duan Ling Tian and Zuo Yue.

Although Huang Daniu, Su Li, and Zhang Shou Yong knew they were no match for Zuo Yue even if they joined hands, they still stood firmly behind Duan Ling Tian and looked at Zuo Yue fiercely.

There was a flash in Zuo Yue's eyes.

Suddenly, he glanced at the two young men, who was standing apart in the distance, as if he had thought of something.

When he noticed their gazes were on him, he did not take any action nor did he attack Duan Ling Tian.

He knew in his heart, if they knew about Duan Ling Tian, it would be difficult for him to obtain the Profundity Fragment in Duan Ling Tian's hand even with his strength.

'En?' Zuo Yue's movement caught Duan Ling Tian's eyes, and it made him turn to look at the two young men in the distance.

One of them was tall and strong. Physically, he looked almost similar to Huang Daniu. The other one was dressed in green with a sheathed spirit sword on his back, he was a Sword Cultivator.

Duan Ling Tian was curious so he extended his Spirit Energy toward them.

Shortly after, Duan Ling Tian narrowed his eyes, there was a hint of shock and horror on his face as realization dawned on him. 'I see... They seem to be the strongest among the younger generation from Izumo Sect and North Nether Sect!'

Duan Ling Tian was certain of it after he probed their cultivation.

Their cultivation was on par with Zuo Yue!

As for Zuo Yue, Duan Ling Tian noticed the hint of hesitation in his eyes after he looked at them.

That was why it was not difficult for Duan Ling Tian to guess Zuo Yue's thought process.

"Big Brother Duan!" At this moment, a familiar voice as beautiful as an oriole bird clearly entered Duan Ling Tian's ears.

Duan Ling Tian stared intently at the place where the voice came from at once.

There was a figure that flashed out like a fire elf toward him.

"Tian Wu!" When Duan Ling Tian saw the approaching figure, a gentle smile appeared on his face. He controlled the air and flew toward her.

The figure that looked like a fire elf was none other than Feng Tian Wu!

During Duan Ling Tian's journey, he was constantly worried about Feng Tian Wu's safety.

Now that he saw Feng Tian Wu was safe and sound, the weight was finally lifted off his shoulders, and he heaved a sigh of relief.

Chapter 983: Totally Ignored

"Big Brother Duan."

Feng Tian Wu's pretty face blushed involuntarily when she looked at the purple-clad young man whom she had missed dearly and dreamt of. Her face was so red it was as if blood would drip out from it.

Feng Tian Wu's captivating and beautiful face revealed a hint of shyness, it made the people who saw it could not help but want to hold her in their arms and pamper her.

"Tian Wu." Duan Ling Tian smiled and locked eyes with the redclad girl, his eyes were filled with deep affection.

He was not certain of his feelings when he faced Feng Tian Wu. There was no awkwardness that was present in the past, and they seemed to be closer now, but in comparison to the feelings between a couple, it was not there yet.

However, whenever he thought of the time when they had just entered the Martial Emperor's secret treasure, and how Feng Tian Wu followed after him and Zi Shang disregarding her own safety when they fell into the bottomless abyss, his heart could not help but feel moved.

His heart was not made of steel or stones. Naturally, he would be moved by Feng Tian Wu's sacrifice.

Feng Tian Wu's status in his heart certainly had an earthshaking change after that incident. It was just missing the last step of putting a name to it before their hearts could completely be one.

"En?" Duan Ling Tian's Spiritual Energy extended naturally to Feng Tian Wu's body, he was startled when he realized something.

Feng Tian Wu's cultivation had progressed to the Fourth Level Void Interpretation.

Although she had improved compared to her previous state at the Third Level Void Interpretation, it was insufficient to startle him.

What shocked him was the wave of burning aura from Feng Tian Wu's body. The burning aura was hidden in Feng Tian Wu's body, and it seemed ready to come out with just a command as though it was ready to burn his Spiritual Energy.

"What happened?" Duan Ling Tian's face immediately turned grave as he retracted his Spiritual Energy. The feeling he had gotten from Feng Tian Wu was as though a dreaded Flaming Demon beast was sleeping in her body.

Once that Flaming Demon beast woke up, Feng Tian Wu would surely die!

Duan Ling Tian was certain about this.

'Is it the Fire Spirit Body's power?' Very quickly, Duan Ling Tian vaguely made a guess. It seemed to be the only reason.

'But Tian Wu is only almost twenty-six years old... There are still four more years before the Fire Spirit Body's power will be activated.' Duan Ling Tian was confused.

'I think Tian Wu must have encountered something in the Martial Emperor's secret treasure that caused the Fire Spirit Body's power in her to be unstable.' Duan Ling Tian became more and more solemn as his train of thoughts grew longer.

'What a beautiful woman!' Feng Tian Wu's appearance caught the attention of Peng Bao, Zuo Yue, and the two young men in the distance.

At this moment, their gazes at Feng Tian Wu revealed their fascination.

They had seen a lot of beautiful women. However, it was their first time seeing one with such a temperament. They could not help but feel moved by her. "Brother Ling Tian, you're really fortunate!" Even Peng Bao was in awe of Feng Tian Wu's beauty. He noticed Feng Tian Wu's gaze toward Duan Ling Tian was filled with love and admiration.

When he witnessed the scene, he was envious but also happy for Duan Ling Tian.

Although he had just met Duan Ling Tian, they had become true friends because of their similar temperament.

"Heng!" Zuo Yue scoffed, there was a hint of jealousy in his stern gaze toward Duan Ling Tian.

After he found out about Duan Ling Tian's identity, his first thought was to kill him and snatch the Profundity Fragment in his hands.

However, he gave up on that idea then because there were two other people present who was equally as popular as him in the northern desert.

He knew that if he attacked Duan Ling Tian, it would attract both of their attention, and they would surely join in the fight.

If that happened, it was very likely that he would end up with nothing.

Just as Duan Ling Tian was about to ask Feng Tian Wu about what happened to her Fire Spirit Body in the Martial Emperor's secret treasure, a loud voice came from afar and broke the silence.

"Duan Ling Tian, you're indeed alive."

Hu!

Under everyone's watchful eyes, a bald young man dressed in a kasaya flew out from an entrance on one side of the huge cave. He was extremely fast. In just a blink of an eye, he was standing in mid-air close to Duan Ling Tian.

"Xuan Bei!" Duan Ling Tian raised his eyebrow and smiled faintly when he saw the young monk before him. "Of course I'm alive and

well since we haven't fulfilled the agreement we have."

Xuan Bei, the strongest person among the younger generation of Empyrean Temple's disciples, was the young monk who made a pact with Duan Ling Tian at Skywolf Fort.

"How do you feel about fulfilling the agreement we have now?" Xuan Bei narrowed his eyes and slowly said with a smile on his face the entire time, "I'm very interested in the Profundity Fragment in your hands."

Profundity Fragment!

Zuo Yue, whose expression was already grim when he heard Xuan Bei calling out Duan Ling Tian's name, became gloomier when Xuan Bei finished his sentence.

Earlier, when Xuan Bei called out to Duan Ling Tian, he noticed the two other people from Izumo Sect and North Nether Sect respectively, who were equally as popular as him, instantly focused their gazes on Duan Ling Tian.

However, they did not react at all even after a while.

Then, as Xuan Bei carelessly said the word 'Profundity Fragment', he could clearly see realization dawning on their faces as their gazes brightened suddenly.

'Oh no!' Zuo Yue's heart sank. What he least hoped would happen had happened.

Shou! Shou!

Just as Xuan Bei finished his sentence, both of the young men in the distance finally reacted.

Their robes fluttered, and they vanished into thin air in the very next moment. When they reappeared, they were near Duan Ling Tian. They stared intently at him.

At this moment, their eyes gleamed as they stared at Duan Ling Tian. They did not look like they were sizing up a person, they looked more like they were inspecting a precious treasure.

"You're Duan Ling Tian?"

"That disciple from the third-rate force who obtained a Profundity Fragment?"

Both of them stared at Duan Ling Tian and spoke almost simultaneously with a questioning tone.

Originally, Feng Tian Wu was quietly looking into the eyes of her sweetheart, feeling blessed at that moment. The two voices that sounded like the cawing of crows shattered the moment of peace and caused her face to change.

When Feng Tian Wu was about to react, a gentle Voice Transmission entered her ears and calmed her down.

"Tian Wu, did you encounter anything in the Martial Emperor's secret treasure? Why do I feel like the Fire Spirit Body's power in you isn't as calm as it used to be?" A gentle voice filled with concern managed to completely calm Feng Tian Wu's emotions. She blushed even harder, it was as if blood would drip from her face.

The feeling of being cared for was nice. Not to mention being cared for by one's sweetheart.

"En." Feng Tian Wu nodded and instantly responded via Voice Transmission, "Not too long ago, I obtained a Ninth Level Monarch Stage Fire Profundity Fragment..."

Duan Ling Tian's eyes narrowed instantly when Feng Tian Wu finished her sentence.

The outer ring of the Martial Emperor's secret treasure had five Monarch Stage Profundity Fragments. Previously, he was curious, apart from the three that he possessed, who had obtained the two other fragments?

Now he knew one of it was with Tian Wu.

'And it's a Ninth Level Monarch Stage Fire Profundity Fragment!' Duan Ling Tian was really shocked.

It should be noted that the best one among the three Monarch Stage Profundity Fragments that he possessed was merely an Eighth Level Monarch Stage Profundity Fragment. It was incomparable to a Ninth Level Monarch Stage Profundity Fragment.

"When I held it in my hands, it left my palms and entered my body after turning into liquid..." Feng Tian Wu's voice continued to be transmitted. Duan Ling Tian suppressed his shock and continued listening carefully to Feng Tian Wu's detailed experience in the Martial Emperor's secret treasure.

It was Feng Tian Wu's biggest secret.

However, in front of Duan Ling Tian, Feng Tian Wu divulged everything without reservation.

Duan Ling Tian's face turned more and more grave as Feng Tian Wu's story progressed.

'Tian Wu... is able to comprehend the First Level Monarch Stage Fire Profundity Fragment?' Duan Ling Tian's heart skipped a beat.

As a normal martial artist, being able to comprehend the First Level Monarch Stage Fire Profundity Fragment might be a good thing. However, that was not the case for Feng Tian Wu, the owner of a Fire Spirit Body.

'If it's a normal martial artist, such an unusual change from using the Ninth Level Monarch Stage Fire Profundity Fragment is impossible. Tian Wu's Fire Spirit Body must be the cause of the Profundity Fragment's unusual change.'

Duan Ling Tian was almost certain about this.

"I don't know if there's a similar incident in the Rebirth Martial Emperor's memory...' Duan Ling Tian was stunned due to his concern, and he anxiously searched the Rebirth Martial Emperor's

memory from both lives and tried to get answers from it.

He had a feeling the changes in the Concept Fragment in Tian Wu's body, and her ability to comprehend the First Level Monarch Stage Fire Profundity Fragment was not beneficial to her.

Duan Ling Tian and Feng Tian Wu were communicating through Voice Transmission, and they stood there quietly and completely ignored the questions from the two people from Izumo Sect and North Nether Sect.

The faces of the tall and strong young man from Izumo Sect and the green-clad young man from North Nether Sect instantly darkened.

"Haha...Lei Zhong, Xu Qing, they totally ignored the both of you."

At this moment, Zuo Yue laughed uncontrollably as he looked at his old rivals with derision.

Lei Zhong, the strongest person among the younger generation of Izumo Sect, was the direct disciple of the only Martial Monarch powerhouse in Izumo Sect.

On the other hand, Xu Qing, the strongest person among the younger generation of North Nether Sect, was a direct disciple of the Sect Leader of North Nether Sect.

Chapter 984: First Level Advanced Thunder Concept

Xu Qing was unruffled when he heard Zuo Yue's sarcastic remark since he knew Zuo Yue was intentionally provoking him. That was why he could quickly regain his composure and stay calm.

Shua!

Contrary to Xu Qing, Lei Zhong's face changed dramatically.

He had a bad temper, and he could not stay calm after he heard Zuo Yue's sarcastic remark.

He moved in an instant like a fierce goshawk, he flashed by and lunged at Duan Ling Tian with a great momentum. He was incomparably fast.

Hua! As Lei Zhong flashed by, a milky-white flame surged out from his body.

When the milky-white flame appeared, it instantly transformed into red flames that covered the entire sky. He looked like a vast flame as he swept toward Duan Ling Tian, intending to swallow Duan Ling Tian up.

Shou!

Lei Zhong, who was surrounded by flames, was like the God of Fire came to life. When he punched, a burning fireball flew out. The airflow compressed and set off a series of air explosion sound.

As the air explosion sounded, a scorching airwave spread everywhere.

At the space above Lei Zhong, the Heaven and Earth Energy stirred and formed the Heaven and Earth Phenomenon. Initially, six hundred ancient horned dragons' silhouettes appeared before another five hundred more appeared.

Fourth Level Void Transformation!

Fourth Level Advanced Fire Concept!

The gap between the Fourth Level Void Transformation and the Third Level Void Transformation was like an impassable gulf and an insurmountable divider.

A Third Level Void Transformation martial artist who fully exerted his Origin Energy had a strength equivalent to four hundred ancient horned dragons.

On the other hand, a Fourth Level Void Transformation martial artist who fully exerted his Origin Energy had a strength equivalent to six hundred ancient horned dragons. That was two hundred more ancient horned dragons' strength compared to the former.

Hua! Hua! Hua! Hua! Hua!

• • •

The airwaves from the compressed air flow created a gust of fierce and burning wind. The people who were present at the scene felt as though there was heat wave coming their way. That feeling made them very uncomfortable.

Lei Zhong attacked Duan Ling Tian quickly without even using a spirit weapon.

Perhaps, in his opinion, a young disciple from a third-rate force had not earned the rights for him to use a spirit weapon. Apart from that, he thought it was pure luck that Duan Ling Tian managed to obtain a Profundity Fragment.

Shou!

The 1100 ancient horned dragons' silhouettes above Lei Zhong as he punched his fist out like a cannonball shooting out of a cannon as the flames covered the sky. It headed straight for Duan Ling Tian as though it could destroy Duan Ling Tian with just a punch.

Feng Tian Wu reacted quickly, her face changed dramatically as she yelled, "Big Brother Duan, be careful!"

When she cautioned Duan Ling Tian, her eyes turned blood-red, and her body exuded waves of terrifying scorching aura that kept rising.

Flames rose from Feng Tian Wu's body, and at the space above her, the Heaven and Earth Energy stirred as it seemingly gathered into a thousand or even two thousand ancient horned dragons' silhouettes!

'It's okay, I can handle him.' As flames rose uncontrollably from Feng Tian Wu's body, a Voice Transmission entered her ears and completely reassured her.

She had unconditional trust toward the owner of that voice.

Under everyone's watchful eyes, Duan Ling Tian, who seemed distracted and unprepared, turned around in an instant. He raised his hand and threw a punch to counter Lei Zhong's fiery punch with a great momentum.

Shou!

When Duan Ling Tian punched, milky-white Origin Energy surged out. It immediately transformed into a vast khaki energy entwined with purple lightning and green wind.

Additionally, his punch was followed by Sword Energy like a shadow. It contained Sword Concept that was extremely terrifying.

Bang! Bang! Bang! Bang!

• • •

When Duan Ling Tian punched, the air compressed once again and set off another series of air explosion that sounded like exploding mines.

Moreover, the mighty airwaves spread in all directions resulting

in gusts of biting-cold wind that clashed with the scorching wind from Lei Zhong.

Subsequently, another burst of air explosion sounded ceaselessly one after another. Everyone's robes rustled in the wind. However, no one was paying attention to that.

Their eyes were locked on the two individuals' impending collision. More accurately, the impending collision of their fists.

Shou!

The flames on Lei Zhong's body surged and raged. His punch was like the God of Fire's wrath, it tore through the sky and exuded an overwhelming scorching aura that shrouded Duan Ling Tian.

Shou!

Duan Ling Tian's robes were billowing and fluttering. His fist that contained all his Origin Energy and the four Concepts punched out unreservedly.

Bang!!

Both their fists collided in an instant, the force from the collision set off a deafening noise.

The airwave could be clearly seen in the air as it rippled out in all directions.

Those with weaker cultivation like the trio Huang Daniu, Su Li, and Zhang Shou Yong paled one after another.

They could feel their vital energies and blood surging up and down since they were faintly affected.

"So strong!" When they saw how Duan Ling Tian could match Lei Zhong's fist and did not lag behind even though he punched with his bare fist, the three of them, including Huang Daniu, calmed down their surging vital energies and blood as their eyes brightened.

Bang! Bang! Bang! Bang!

...

In the center where Duan Ling Tian and Lei Zhong's fist collided, ripples of airwaves spread out creating gusts of violent wind.

Pa! Pa!

At this moment, the hair bands on Duan Ling Tian and Lei Zhong's head broke at almost the same time. Their long hair was billowing in the wind as though they were tiny black writhing snakes.

Bang! Bang! Bang! Bang!

• • •

Their forces kept colliding where their fists met before they converged and set off a deafening noise.

They were evenly matched!

"How's that possible?!" Zuo Yue's eyes narrowed when he witnessed the scene, his face was filled with incredulity.

He found it hard to believe that the scene before him was real.

That Duan Ling Tian, a mere young disciple from a third-rate force who looked no older than twenty-five years old, was evenly matched with Lei Zhong?

"This Duan Ling Tian is stronger than Lei Zhong?" Xu Qing who was calm could not help but move. He muttered, "In their match, Lei Zhong took the lead and had the upper hand... And yet, Duan Ling Tian, who hurriedly returned the punch, managed to counter Lei Zhong's punch!"

"The strength of Duan Ling Tian's punch is definitely more than Lei Zhong! If he's at the same level as Lei Zhong, his hasty punch would not be locked in a stalemate with Lei Zhong's punch."

Compared to Zuo Yue, Xu Qing had a more thorough analysis of the scene before him. Duan Ling Tian was better!

Seemingly set off by Xu Qing's muttering, the Heaven and Earth Energy that was stirring above Duan Ling Tian finally formed the Heaven and Earth Phenomenon.

1200 ancient horned dragons' silhouettes solidified into form, and they descended majestically.

The Heaven and Earth Phenomenon indicated that Duan Ling Tian's bare-handed punch currently contained the strength of 1200 ancient horned dragons!

Compared to Lei Zhong's punch that contained the strength of 1100 ancient horned dragons, there was a hundred more ancient horned dragons' strength!

1200 ancient horned dragons' strength!

Duan Ling Tian's Third Level Void Transformation cultivation base was equivalent to four hundred ancient horned dragons' strength.

Third Level Advanced Wind Concept was equivalent to four hundred ancient horned dragons' strength.

The Ninth Level Intermediate Earth Concept along with the Sword Concept was equivalent to two hundred ancient horned dragons' strength.

In addition to the First Level Advanced Thunder Concept that was equivalent to two hundred ancient horned dragons' strength, there was a total of 1200 ancient horned dragons' strength.

That was right.

Duan Ling Tian's Thunder Concept had progressed.

On the day he killed Lei Jun, he successfully progressed from the Ninth Level Intermediate to the First Level Advanced.

Bang!!

A loud bang sounded again as the Heaven and Earth Phenomenon formed at the space above Duan Ling Tian, the purple lightning entwined around his fist became more vivid as it raged even more.

Meanwhile, Duan Ling Tian recovered from the disadvantage of losing the lead and his hasty attack, he fully exerted his strength and charged with the strength of 1200 ancient horned dragons' strength!

After he recovered from his disadvantage, the result was obvious when his 1200 ancient horned dragon's strength went against Lei Zhong's 1100 ancient horned dragons' strength.

Crushed!

Totally crushed!

"Impossible!!" Lei Zhong was lifted and smashed by just one punch from Duan Ling Tian. When pain permeated the fist he attacked with, Lei Zhong did not scream. His eyes narrowed, he could not believe the scene before his eyes to be true.

A mere disciple from a third-rate force had overpowered him with just a move when he had the advantage of attacking first?

It did not matter if Lei Zhong was willing to believe it or not, the fact that he was weaker than Duan Ling Tian, and the fact that he was lifted and smashed until he was critically injured were true.

"Wa!!!" Lei Zhong who was lifted and smashed by Duan Ling Tian with a punch flew for more than a hundred meters before he came to a halt. At the same time, he spat out a mouthful of vividly red blood.

"I...I'm hurt? By a young disciple from a third-rate force?" He extended his hand and wiped the corner of his mouth, his eyes narrowed when he saw the blood on his hands. His expression immediately stiffened.

However, he seemed to have noticed something shortly after. With a tremble, he suddenly recovered from his daze.

It was because he realized Duan Ling Tian, who was from a thirdrank force, the Five Element Sect, did not seem to have any intention of stopping after he was punched away.

Duan Ling Tian's eyes were cold, and his face was frosty. He was stepping in the air with a moderate speed as he headed toward Lei Zhong.

Cold, killing intent flashed in his eyes.

In his opinion, killing this opponent, who was the strongest among the younger generation from Izumo Sect, was not only a payback of his recklessness. More importantly, he wanted to make a point!

At this moment, there were more people entering this huge cave.

Among them were disciples from Anicca Sect, North Nether Sect, and Izumo Sect.

Pang! Pang! Pang!

...

At this moment, the scene was deadly silent, every step Duan Ling Tian took caused the air flow to vibrate and echo.

Every sound that fell into Lei Zhong's ears was as loud as thunder to him, and his face visibly paled immediately.

Chapter 985: Leaving the Five Element Sect

Wham!

Wham!

• • •

Every step Duan Ling Tian took was akin to a giant hammer pounding on Lei Zhong's heart, his breathing quickened, and he unable to calm down for a very long time.

When Lei Zhong noticed the killing intent in Duan Ling Tian's eyes, he turned ghastly pale and hastily took out a wound curing medicinal pill for his own consumption.

However, even if he consumed a wound curing medicinal pill, it would take quite a while before he would recover from the injury that he currently suffered from, and it would undoubtedly affect the control of his strength.

Whoosh!

Nobody noticed when, but a thick and solid saber suddenly appeared in Lei Zhong's left hand that was still intact.

As the flame in his hand soared, it continued to merge with the saber, and a saber ray appeared immediately.

Swoosh!

The Heaven and Earth Energy once again solidified and formed 1100 silhouettes of ancient horned dragons above his head before another 520 over silhouettes of ancient horned dragons followed suit.

Over 1620 silhouettes of ancient horned dragons hovered and whirred above Lei Zhong's head, ready to attack at any given time!

However, perhaps due to the fact that his injury was not fully healed yet, the over 1620 silhouettes of ancient horned dragons above Lei Zhong's head appeared extremely unstable.

A moment later, it decreased to over 1500 silhouettes, and another second later, it dropped down to become 1400 silhouettes only.

• • •

Eventually, it became less than 150 silhouettes of ancient horned dragons.

However, at this moment, Duan Ling Tian, who was striding forward, also had a sword in his hand. It was the Quasi Royal Grade Spirit Sword.

The moment the Quasi Royal Grade Spirit Sword appeared, Duan Ling Tian merged his energy with it, and another 400 silhouettes of ancient horned dragons instantly appeared next to the 1200 silhouettes of ancient horned dragons above him.

1600 silhouettes of ancient horned dragons.

Such a Heaven and Earth Phenomenon was more than enough to amazed the others, but the majority of the people present at the scene could not help but feel momentarily stunned.

Those people were none other than Zuo Yue, Xu Qing, Peng Bao, and the other disciples from the second-rate forces.

"This Duan Ling Tian only has the strength of 1600 ancient horned dragons when he uses his spirit weapon? It's over 20 ancient horned dragons weaker compared to Lei Zhong when he's in his prime and using his spirit weapon?"

"B-but, when he's not using his spirit weapon, his strength is 100 ancient horned dragons stronger than Lei Zhong! What's going on?"

"Or, maybe he's concealing his strength?"

"I think that's the only plausible explanation. Otherwise, won't Lei Zhong's defeat today become meaningless?"

"Well, that's because after he's injured by Duan Ling Tian, Lei

Zhong can no longer display the strength that he possesses during his prime. Even if he uses his spirit weapon, his strength is unable to go beyond 1500 ancient horned dragons!"

• • •

The people who were busy speculating were none other than the Anicca Sect and North Nether Sect's disciples who managed to arrive at the central zone of the Martial Emperor's secret treasure alive. There were not more than five of them.

Based on their words, it was apparent that they were taking pleasure in other people's misfortune.

In their opinions, if Duan Ling Tian dared to kill Lei Zhong, Lei Zhong would definitely die today!

The faces of the remaining two Izumo Sect's disciples were awfully pale at this moment.

Lei Zhong was the strongest person among the current younger generation in their Anicca Sect. In their eyes, he was their undefeated God of War.

However, today, the undefeated God of War in their eyes was in a disadvantageous situation in the face of a third-rate force's disciple. Moreover, his life was in grave danger as well.

Presently, almost everybody in the group of second-rate forces' disciples knew who Duan Ling Tian was.

Before they arrived, they had already heard of the name 'Duan Ling Tian'. He was the strongest person among the current younger generation in Five Element Sect — a third-rate force — and had obtained a Profundity Fragment at the outer ring of the Martial Emperor's secret treasure.

"And to think before this, I actually thought of killing him and snatching that Profundity Fragment from his hands if I meet him. Now that I look at it, thank goodness I didn't meet him. Otherwise, I'm sure I'll be among the dead right now!" One of the Izumo Sect's

disciples smiled wryly.

"No doubt! If even Senior Brother Lei Zhong can be seriously injured by him, what do we have to go against his strength? With his strength, it's no wonder he's able to get his hands on that Profundity Fragment!" The other Izumo Sect's disciple was deeply impressed.

In the next second, he added again, "However, he won't dare to kill Senior Brother Lei Zhong unless he's crazy. Otherwise, not only him but Five Element Sect, that third-rate force that he's in, will have to bear the wrath of our Izumo Sect!"

"Exactly! Unless he slaughters all the eyewitness, he won't be able to live if he kills Senior Brother Lei Zhong. Moreover, he'll only be inviting trouble to the sect he's in!" The former Izumo Sect disciple expressed his agreement as well.

At this time, the majority of the remaining people did not think Duan Ling Tian would kill Lei Zhong.

After all, killing Lei Zhong was akin to making an enemy out of Izumo Sect!

Izumo Sect was one of the three strongest second-rate forces in Cloud Continent.

They only needed to dispatch a Martial Monarch powerhouse, and it was enough to annihilate the entire Five Element Sect, a third-rate force, from the northern desert without much effort.

However, how could they know what Duan Ling Tian was thinking?

When they saw Duan Ling Tian increased his speed and charged toward Lei Zhong again before he sent the thick and solid huge saber flying from Lei Zhong's hand in just three blows and wounded him severely again, all of them went crazy over it.

'How dare this third-rate force's disciple act so recklessly?'

When Duan Ling Tian raised a hand to strike with his sword — it was neither too slow nor too fast — and he was about to stab Lei Zhong's throat to kill him off...

"He's crazy! Duan Ling Tian's crazy!"

"Isn't he afraid of Izumo Sect seeking revenge on him?"

• • •

At this moment, other than the two young disciples from Izumo Sect who were scared stiff, the Anicca Sect and North Nether Sect's disciples could not help but mutter to each other. All they felt was a chill that ran down their spines.

Was the purple-clad young man before them really a disciple from a third-rate force?

Since when did a third-rate force's disciple become so daring?

Zuo Yue, Xu Qing, and Peng Bao were shocked by Duan Ling Tian's action. Peng Bao shouted anxiously, trying to stop him from killing Lei Zhong, "Duan Ling Tian!"

In his opinion, if Duan Ling Tian forced his sword forward, he would undoubtedly die. Moreover, the third-rate force, Five Element Sect, that he was in would definitely be annihilated as well!

As an Anicca Sect's disciple, he was very clear about this. The wrath of Izumo Sect was not to be trifled with.

If a third-rate force's disciple dared to kill him, the result would be the same as well.

The Anicca Sect he was in would spare no effort to kill the third-rate force's disciple and destroy the third-rate force completely!

The pride of a second-rate force would never allow a third-rate force to trample on it.

In the eyes of the people from the second-rate forces, the thirdrate forces and their people were undoubtedly as feeble as ants. They were like an existence that would collapse at the first blow.

"Oh?" Upon hearing Peng Bao's voice, Duan Ling Tian's right hand trembled for a moment before he moved the sword away. However, his left hand was not left idle, and once again, another palm struck out and inflicted another serious injury on Lei Zhong who was already severely injured.

"Barf!!" Lei Zhong spat out another mouthful of blood. Ghastly pale, there seemed to be no colors on his face at all. His body swayed and faltered as though he was going to fall from the sky at any moment.

Whoosh!

Duan Ling Tian raised his left hand and gripped Lei Zhong's throat before he hoisted him up forcefully.

Right now, he only needed to grip a little harder, and Lei Zhong would definitely die.

As Duan Ling Tian gripped Lei Zhong's throat and lifted him up, he looked at Peng Bao and a hint of perplexity could be seen in his eyes. "Yeah?"

Peng Bao did not beat around the bush and voiced his concern immediately, "Duan Ling Tian, you can injure Lei Zhong but don't rashly kill him off! If he's not dead, everything can still be discussed, but if he's dead, not only you but the Five Element Sect behind you will most likely be eradicated as well!"

He said such words because he regarded Duan Ling Tian as a friend and did not want to see Duan Ling Tian walk on the path of no return.

"Five Element Sect?" Upon hearing Peng Bao's words, Duan Ling Tian frowned before heaving a sigh. "Oh, yeah, I forgot. Five Element Sect won't be able to survive Izumo Sect's wrath!"

Duan Ling Tian's voice was not particularly loud, but everybody present at the scene heard his words.

At once, almost everyone on the scene, including Feng Tian Wu, believed Duan Ling Tian would no longer kill Lei Zhong.

"This Duan Ling Tian's finally giving in."

"Of course! The wrath of Izumo Sect is not something that he or the Five Element Sect can fight against!"

• • •

A few young disciples from Annica Sect and North Nether Sect buried their heads together in discussion. They were not surprised by this change at all.

As for the two young disciples from Izumo Sect, a smug smile crept up on their faces immediately.

The fact that Izumo Sect was such a powerful deterrent made them proud of being the disciples of Izumo Sect.

"Cough... D-Duan Ling T-Tian! You d-don't dare to kill me after all! F-For everything that y-you've done to me t-today, I-I'll definitely go to the Five E-Element Sect one day and r-return everything to you t-ten- or a hundred-fold!" The eyes of Lei Zhong, who was lifted by his throat and humiliated by Duan Ling Tian, was completely cold. He glared at Duan Ling Tian and gnashed his teeth in hatred.

However, it seemed as though Duan Ling Tian did not even hear a word of what Lei Zhong said, he continued to frown as if he was thinking about something.

Finally, Duan Ling Tian returned to his senses after a while.

"Today, I, hereby declare that from this moment on, I, Duan Ling Tian, will leave the Five Element Sect! From now on, everything about the Five Element Sect has nothing to do with me, and all of my business has nothing to do with the Five Element Sect as well!" Duan Ling Tian finally opened his mouth.

The words that left his mouth was terrifyingly shocking and

inexplicable.

The moment Duan Ling Tian ended his speech, the entire place became deadly silent at once.

What the hell was Duan Ling Tian thinking?

This was the first thought that came to the minds of most people present at the scene.

"B-Big Brother Duan..." Feng Tian Wu was the first one to return to her senses. Her face immediately became solemn when she realized his next course of action.

Very soon, Peng Bao regained his senses as well. Horror dawned on his face again, and he hastily advised, "Brother Ling Tian! Don't be so rash! Even if you leave Five Element Sect, and Izumo Sect doesn't go after them to maintain their image, you'll still have to bear the wrath of Izumo Sect and suffer from being pursued by them! It's not worth it to go against the entire Izumo Sect just for Lei Zhong!"

"Duan Ling Tian!"

"Brother Ling Tian!

Huang Daniu, Su Li, and Zhang Shou Yong were looking at Duan Ling Tian with a worried look on their faces as well. They were afraid that he would really kill Lei Zhong and invite trouble for himself.

Under the watchful eyes of the others, Duan Ling Tian looked at Lei Zhong and asked calmly, "Is your name Lei Zhong?"

"T-That's right! I-I'm Lei Zhong. The direct disciple of the o-only Martial Monarch powerhouse in Izumo Sect." Lei Zhong spat out his words bit by bit. His hoarse voice was full of pride, and he was still oblivious to the impending crisis.

Chapter 986: Lei Zhong's Death

Slap!!

Almost at the same time when Lei Zhong's last word left his mouth, a crisp slapping sound reverberated in the air and clearly entered the ears of everyone present at the scene.

Under the watchful eyes of the others, Duan Ling Tian raised a hand and gave Lei Zhong a loud slap in the face. It left a visible palm print on one half of his face and made it swell instantly.

For a moment, all the bystanders could feel was a chill running down their spines.

This Duan Ling Tian was just too daring.

How dare he gave Lei Zhong a slap even after he said he was the direct disciple of a Martial Monarch powerhouse.

They had to admit they really admire Duan Ling Tian's courage from the bottom of their hearts!

However, although they admired his courage, it did not mean they agreed with Duan Ling Tian's way of doing things.

"That's just searching for death!" At the same time, the majority of the people felt Duan Ling Tian was merely looking for death. That included Zuo Yue, the strongest person among the younger generations in Anicca Sect.

At this moment, the gaze that Zuo Yue used to look at Duan Ling Tian was like he was staring at a dead person.

In his opinion, Duan Ling Tian's action would undoubtedly provoke the pride of that Martial Monarch powerhouse from Izumo Sect. Even if he made it out alive from the Martial Emperor's secret treasure, he would still, without a doubt, die eventually!

That Martial Monarch powerhouse would never let him go.

After slapping Lei Zhong, who glared at him fiercely and itched to smash him into powder, Duan Ling Tian asked with a calm face in tone that was neither fast nor slow, "I only asked whether you're Lei Zhong or not. Did I ask you whose direct disciple you are?"

"Y-You..." Lei Zhong narrowed his eyes, and it seemed like he was about to open his mouth again.

Slap.

Another loud slap landed on the other half of Lei Zhong's face, the slap turned his face into a pig's face.

"Did I ask you to speak?" Duan Ling Tian gave Lei Zhong another slap and continued to look at him calmly. It thoroughly enraged Lei Zhong. With an even more intense hatred, he glared at Duan Ling Tian, but he did not dare to utter another word.

He believed that if he dared to say another word, the other party would definitely give him another slap in the face without any hesitation.

This purple-clad young man was like a madman! A madman through and through!

When the people at the side saw Duan Ling Tian slap Lei Zhong again, chills ran down their spines again. All that was running through their minds right now was how big of a gut this Duan Ling Tian possessed. He was so daring to make light of that Martial Monarch powerhouse.

"Do you really think I don't dare to kill you?" With the usual calm tone, Duan Ling Tian questioned word by word as he stared at Lei Zhong.

This time, Lei Zhong did not answer. However, the extreme coldness that could be seen in his eyes expressed the thoughts in his mind.

Slap!!

Another loud slap resonated in the air, it gripped the bystanders' hearts so much that all of their heartbeats turned rapid instantly. Each and every one of them could feel their blood running cold.

Duan Ling Tian gave Lei Zhong another slap. Lei Zhong's eyeballs were almost bulging out due to the fierce and intense glare he shot Duan Ling Tian. Duan Ling Tian asked again, "Didn't you hear my question?" His tone was no longer calm but contained a hint of coldness now.

Finally, Lei Zhong swallowed back the blood that rose up from his throat and asked in a hoarse yet cold voice, "Don't tell me you dare to kill me?"

Ignoring his question, Duan Ling Tian asked without caring, "Your name's Lei Zhong... I wonder what relationship you have with Lei Jun, the second strongest person or something among the younger generation in Anicca Sect?"

He had a feeling since Lei Zhong and Lei Jun's surname were both Lei, and both were the most outstanding disciples among the younger generation in Izumo Sect, they must be related in some ways.

"He's my younger blood brother, and also the direct disciple of the Sect Leader of Izumo Sect!" The moment Lei Zhong heard Duan Ling Tian mentioning Lei Jun, his pale face was suddenly filled with a sense of pride.

"Your younger brother? What a coincidence!" Duan Ling Tian laughed. The laugh was extremely hearty, but as soon as his laughter died down, his tone turned cold immediately as though it came directly from a thaw hole. "I've already killed your brother, so... do you really think I don't dare to kill you?"

Clamor!

The moment the words left Duan Ling Tian's mouth, the crowd exploded in an uproar immediately.

Duan Ling Tian had killed Lei Zhong's younger brother? The Lei Jun who was also the direct disciple of the Sect Leader of Izumo Sect?

"Shit! He's doomed!" The instance Peng Bao heard Duan Ling Tian's words, he was initially stunned before a wry smile crept up on his face.

He knew the moment Duan Ling Tian made the announcement, him and Izumo Sect were destined to be locked in an endless grudge.

"No wonder. I was just wondering why I didn't see Lei Jun at all. He should've arrived at the central area of the Martial Emperor's secret treasure earlier than us. It didn't cross my mind that he might be dead." Apart from Peng Bao, Huang Daniu, Su Li, and Zhang Shou Yong were also hit by a pang of realization.

As for where and when Lei Jun died, it was not difficult for them to figure it out.

Some time ago, after the fallout between Lei Jun and Peng Bao, Lei Jun left on his own. While they were on their way to the central area of the Martial Emperor's secret treasure with Duan Ling Tian, they only separated once at the cavern with six entrances to explore separately.

Now that they thought about it, it had to be during that time when Duan Ling Tian met Lei Jun and killed him.

"This Duan Ling Tian is dead now!" A sneer crept up on the corner of Zuo Yue's mouth as he rejoiced in other people's misfortune.

Xu Qing's face remained calm, but a hint of shock could be seen in his eyes. He was astonished by Duan Ling Tian's courage.

"It looks like Lei Zhong is going to die this time." Xu Qing sighed.

Since Duan Ling Tian announced the fact that he killed Lei Jun in front of everyone, it meant that he was determined to kill Lei Zhong.

"What?! You...you killed my brother?!" Lei Zhong's eyes narrowed. His ashen face darkened and his body that was lifted by Duan Ling Tian on the neck was so agitated that he was trembling in anger violently. His eyes were filled with extreme chilliness.

"Y-You're dead! You're dead!!" Lei Zhong roared in his hoarse voice.

"You won't get to see whether I'll be dead or not anyway." Duan Ling Tian remained indifferent. As a cold gleam flashed across his eyes, the hand that was gripping Lei Zhong's neck suddenly tightened.

Crack!

A crisp sound of bones breaking reverberated in the air and entered everybody's ears. It made their blood run cold as chills ran down their spines.

Under the watchful eyes of the others, Lei Zhong who was still glaring did not even manage to let out a yell. Just like that, with his head drooping to one side, he went completely still immediately.

The eyes that were originally filled with wrath turned bleak in an instance.

Whoosh!

With a lift of his hand, Duan Ling Tian took Lei Zhong's Spatial Ring from his hand and let go of his grip at the same time. Lei Zhong's body slipped and fell from hundreds over meters high from the sky and eventually became a puddle of bloody pulp on the ground.

Silence.

The entire scene was so quiet that it was terrifying even though everyone present at the scene knew Duan Ling Tian was going to kill Lei Zhong when he announced that he had already killed Lei Jun.

After all, after he admitted to killing Lei Jun, even if he did not kill Lei Zhong, he would still face the same outcome after he left the Martial Emperor's secret treasure.

Since the outcome would be the same after he made that announcement, he naturally would not let Lei Zhong go.

Due to this reason, Lei Zhong was dead.

Although it was within their expectations, they were still struck with fear upon seeing this.

Especially the disciples from the three major second-rate forces.

They knew very well about the position that both Lei Zhong and Lei Jun held in Izumo Sect.

Not only were those two the heads of the current younger generations in Izumo Sect, the two brothers were also the pillars of Izumo Sect's future. Moreover, they were also the direct disciples of the two strongest powerhouses in Izumo Sect.

The strongest person in Izumo Sect was none other than Lei Zhong's master, the only Martial Monarch powerhouse in Izumo Sect — the supreme elder.

As for the second strongest person in Izumo Sect, he was none other than Lei Jun's master, the current Sect Leader of Izumo Sect.

The fact that Duan Ling Tian killed both Lei Zhong and Lei Jun was equivalent to giving a loud slap to the faces of the two most powerful powerhouses in Izumo Sect and completely ignoring their pride.

Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh!

• • •

At this moment, a few more people arrived at the central zone of the Martial Emperor's secret treasure. They arrived just in time to witness the scene of Duan Ling Tian killing Lei Zhong and turning him into a pulpy mess.

"Who's the unlucky one who dared to provoke Senior Brother Ling Tian?" There were many Five Element Sect's disciples among this group of people as well. They could not help but mourn for Lei Zhong.

Naturally, they thought this way because they did not know of Lei Zhong's identity yet. Otherwise, they would not be so calm.

"He's actually still alive?" When one of the few remaining Five Element Sect's disciples saw Duan Ling Tian, shock and disbelief filled his eyes right away as though he had just seen something remarkable.

"Duan Ling Tian!" At the same time, a fast figure appeared in time on top of the side of the central palace.

Zhang Yang just arrived and immediately witnessed the scene of Duan Ling Tian committing a murder.

"T-That guy... Isn't he a young powerhouse who entered from Entrance No. 1?" When Zhang Yan saw the body that had been smashed to a pulp, his eyes gleamed before his expression was replaced with a dumbfounded look.

Since he did not enter from Entrance No. 2, it could only mean that he entered from Entrance No. 1.

During his journey, he had learned about the group of young powerhouses who entered the Martial Emperor's secret treasure. He knew that other than Entrance No. 2, there was one more entrance — Entrance No. 1 — that allowed people to come in.

The people who entered from the Entrance No. 1 was none other than the group of young disciples from the three major second-rate forces of the northern desert.

"Duan Ling Tian actually killed a second-rate force's disciple in the front of so many people?" The corner of Zhang Yan's mouth twitched slightly.

Although he had also killed a few disciples from the second-rate forces in his journey, there was no one alive who knew about this at all.

He did not have such big guts to kill a second-rate force's disciple in the eyes of so many people.

Compared to a third-rate force like the Emotion Severing Sect that he was in, although there was only a one-word difference with the second-rate force, the differences in both their strengths and backgrounds were a whole world of difference.

In the end, Zhang Yan could not contain his curiosity anymore and turned toward the young monk standing nearby and asked via Voice Transmission, "Xuan Bei, what's going on?"

At this moment, the young monk was staring dazedly at the purple-clad young man who stood a distance away, he was unable to return to his senses for a long time.

Zhang Yan's Voice Transmission took him by surprise and woke him up instantly. A wry smile instantly crept up on his face as he replied through Voice Transmission, "What else? Duan Ling Tian just killed that Lei Zhong from Izumo Sect!"

When Duan Ling Tian cast the strength of 1200 ancient horned dragons without the help of any spirit weapon, he knew that he was far from being a match for Duan Ling Tian.

"Lei Zhong? This name sounds quite familiar." Zhang Yan frowned.

Chapter 987: Another Killing Formation

"Izumo Sect," Xuan Bei reminded.

In the northern desert, the three second-rate forces, Izumo Sect, Anicca Sect, and North Nether Sect, were undoubtedly at the highest position.

As a member of the many third-rate forces in the northern desert, although there was not a lot of interaction with the second-rate forces, the third-rate forces' people would still, to some extent, hear about some of the things going on in the second-rate forces.

"Lei Zhong? Izumo Sect?" The moment Xuan Bei reminded him, Zhang Yan finally pieced the puzzle together.

Within seconds, shock clouded his face, and his eyes narrowed as he muttered, "Don't tell me this Lei Zhong is that strongest powerhouse among the current younger generation in Izumo Sect?"

Immediately afterward, Zhang Yan looked at Duan Ling Tian, all he could feel was a chill that ran down his spine. "T-This Duan Ling Tian's strength has risen to what level now? He can even kill THE Lei Zhong from Izumo Sect?!"

He had long heard that Lei Zhong was the strongest person among the current young generation in Izumo Sect. According to rumors, Lei Zhong's cultivation base had already made a breakthrough to the Fourth Level Void Transformation, and he had even comprehended the Fourth Level Advance Fire Concept. He could also be considered as one of the very best young powerhouses in the entire northern desert.

It was far from what he himself could compare to!

However, right now, such a strong young powerhouse had just been killed by Duan Ling Tian!

For a moment, Zhang Yan could not help but be consumed with

shock by Duan Ling Tian's strength. Apart from feeling shocked, he also broke out in cold sweat for him as well. "Duan Ling Tian really has balls! How dare he kill that Lei Zhong?! It's said that not only was Lei Zhong the most powerful person among the current young generation in Izumo Sect, he was also the direct disciple of the Martial Monarch powerhouse in Izumo Sect!"

Killing a Martial Monarch powerhouse's disciple in front of so many people, Zhang Yan could basically see what was going to happen to Duan Ling Tian in the future.

"Duan Ling Tian actually killed Lei Zhong, the strongest person among the current young generation in Izumo Sect?"

"Duan Ling Tian has already announced that he's leaving our Five Element Sect?"

• • •

Nangong Chen, Nangong Yi, Tan Huan, and Tian Zhen who had rushed to the Martial Emperor's secret treasure in succession were taken by surprise when they heard of the news from the other Five Element Sect's disciples.

Although Nangong Chen remained cold and aloof as usual, the dread that rose from the bottom of his heart could be seen in his eyes.

Duan Ling Tian, who was in the limelight, ignored the gazes from the other people and immediately returned to stand beside Feng Tian Wu. His face was solemn as he said through Voice Transmission, "Tian Wu, the power in your body doesn't seem to be very stable... Previously, when you tried to mobilize and display the Fire Profundity, I could clearly sense that it's not under your control at all."

"Apart from that, if you cast your Fire Profundity, it might also set off the energy of the Fire Spirit Body in your body prematurely and prompt it to erupt before the time is right. At that time, your life might be in jeopardy!" When he reached this part of the sentence, a hint of worry was apparent in Duan Ling Tian's eyes.

Feng Tian Wu was enveloped by a sense of warmth when she saw the concern in Duan Ling Tian. Her delicate face was flushed as she answered softly and obediently, "Big Brother Duan, don't you worry. I won't use my Fire Profundity unless it's necessary."

"Alright." When Duan Ling Tian heard her reply, he instantly felt relieved.

As long as Feng Tian Wu did not forcefully mobilize and cast her Fire Profundity, the Fire Spirit Body's energy in her body would not erupt.

In the meantime, Duan Ling Tian looked around and noticed that there were many familiar faces on the scene now, such as Zhang Yan, Nangong Chen, Nangong Yi, Tan Huan, Tian Zhen, and the other disciples of Five Element Sect, Empyrean Temple, Blade Sect, and also the Emotion Severing Sect.

"It's a pity that Chen Wei could not reach here alive." The moment Duan Ling Tian thought of Chen Wei, he could not help but let out a deep sigh.

"Looks like the show I put on earlier is somewhat effective, huh?!" When Duan Ling Tian cast a glance at the group of young powerhouses in his surroundings, he noticed the majority of the people had an intense hint of fear when they looked at him.

Even Xu Qing and Zuo Yue, the strongest people among the current young generation from North Nether Sect and Anicca Sect respectively, also had hints of dread in their eyes when they looked at him.

"Xuan Bei, you said earlier that you're interested in the Profundity Fragment in my hands, didn't you? Do you still want to try taking it away from me?" As though he was reminded by something, Duan Ling Tian looked toward Xuan Bei with a half-

smile playing on his face.

The instance the words left his mouth, everyone present at the scene immediately shifted their attention to Xuan Bei.

The monk from the Empyrean Temple instantly became the center of attention.

"Haha... Bald donkey! I thought you wanted to snatch the Profundity Fragment from Duan Ling Tian earlier? Due to some interruption, you didn't get what you wish for. Now that nobody is interfering anymore, why don't you go ahead and snatch it from him now?" Recalling the scene earlier, Huang Daniu looked at Xuan Bei and burst out laughing with a ridiculing look on his face.

"What? Senior Brother wants to snatch the Profundity Fragment from Duan Ling Tian earlier?" The few Empyrean Temple's disciples, who were still alive to see the light of day, stood gazing at each other. All of them could see the shock and disbelief in each other's eyes.

At this time, they only had one thought in their minds:

'Is Senior Brother Xuan Tian even sane?'

When Duan Ling Tian shifted his attention over to him, Xuan Bei immediately knew that thing was going to take a bad turn. After Duan Ling Tian repeated the words that Xuan Bei himself announced before this, the corner of his mouth could not help but twitch instantly.

What a joke!

Previously, he said such words because he thought his strength could overpower Duan Ling Tian. However, the moment he saw the strength that Duan Ling Tian displayed, he immediately dismissed his thoughts of dueling with Duan Ling Tian.

He did not want to invite trouble for himself!

"Duan Ling Tian, let us draw an end to the promise that we made

with each other. I acknowledge that I'm no match for you!" Xuan Bei took a deep breath, he no longer cared about his pride or image. He had no regards for any shame now.

Duan Ling Tian stared intensely Xuan Bei even though he did not plan to push this matter any further.

Although he was not particularly fond of this little monk from the Empyrean Temple, he did not harbor any bad feelings toward him at all.

As for the words the other party said, he did not take it to heart at all.

If it was the other way around, and Xuan Bei was the one in his position with the Profundity Fragment in his hands, he would have said the same things as well if he was Xuan Bei.

After all, as long as one was a martial artist, one would definitely be interested in the Profundity Fragment.

"Duan Ling Tian, after you leave the Martial Emperor's secret treasure, run as far as you can go. Since you've announced that you're leaving the Five Element Sect in front of so many people, Izumo Sect would most likely not do anything to the Five Element Sect due to their pride, but you're a different story!" A concerned voice entered Duan Ling Tian's ears through Voice Transmission. "In order to avenge the two brothers, Lei Zhong and Lei Jun, Izumo Sect will definitely kill you at all cost! However, it's fortunate that the entrance that you entered is different from ours. Otherwise, you won't even get a chance to flee."

The owner of the Voice Transmission was none other than the Anicca Sect's disciple, Peng Bao.

Duan Ling Tian shifted his attention to Peng Bao who was staring at him with a look of concern. Warmth spread out from his heart immediately, and he responded with a smile, "Don't worry, I know what to do."

Just as he said, he knew what to do.

Since he dared to kill Lei Zhong, this meant that he had already prepared a way out for himself.

Leaving the Five Element Sect was merely the first step.

Naturally, the most important reason for him leaving the Five Element Sect was because he did not want to bring trouble to them due to his own matter.

He could leave this place by himself but not the Five Element Sect.

If Five Element Sect was annihilated by Izumo Sect because of him, he would not be able to feel at ease over it.

"Is this palace the one that was left behind by the Martial Emperor? The place where he passed away?" Without warning, somebody asked out loud.

Everyone's attention, including Duan Ling Tian, immediately shifted away from Xuan Bei and landed on the enormous palace one by one. Each of them was beaming brightly as they looked at it.

The reason they came all the way here was none other than this palace that was left behind by the Martial Emperor.

Casting aside the other treasures that were hidden in this palace, just the three Profundity Fragments in the remnant of the Martial Emperor's body alone was more than enough to make people go crazy over them.

One of them was a freaking Emperor Stage Profundity Fragment for goodness' sake!

"The sides of this palace are surrounded by dense Killing Formations! How are we going to go in?" Duan Ling Tian extended his Spiritual Energy out. As soon as it enveloped the palace, he immediately noticed the endless Killing Formations that were laid upon it.

These Killing Formations had a power that was not any weaker than the Killing Formation at Entrance No. 2.

"Profundity Fragment!"

Although Duan Ling Tian was cautious about it, a Blade Sect's disciple suddenly cried out in a deep voice and rushed out toward the palace in an attempt to be the first person to enter the palace.

As the saying went, 'The early bird gets the worm.'

Perhaps, in his opinion, the first person to enter the palace would have a greater chance of finding the Martial Emperor's body and obtaining the Profundity Fragment in his body.

Swoosh!

The Blade Sect's disciple was extremely fast. Within seconds, he arrived before the palace and charged straight toward the palace entrance.

"Haha..." The Blade Sect's disciple laughed excitedly when he stood outside the palace. Like a bolt of lightning, he rushed forward to the entrance.

Upon seeing the Blade Sect's disciple making his move, the other young powerhouses from each sect was itching to make their moves as well.

However, what happened next immediately took them by horror and rooted them to the same spot.

As the Blade Sect's disciple flew out, before he even came close to the palace entrance, he was stopped by some invisible force that prevented him from going near it.

Boom!!!

In the next second, under the watchful eyes of the others, the Blade Sect's disciple exploded mysteriously and transformed into a shower of blood and flesh that rained in front of the palace entrance. It was completely dazzling to the eyes.

Gasp! Gasp! Gasp! Gasp! Gasp!

...

Upon seeing this, all that could be heard at the scene was a series of loud gasps.

"It's an Inscription Formation!" Soon, people began to realize what was going on, and the looks they cast toward the enormous entrance changed instantly.

At this moment, the way they looked at the palace was no longer the look they used when they saw some treasure. Instead, it was like they were looking at a ferocious, vicious and horrifying monster as fear rose up from the bottom of their hearts.

"There's Killing Formations around the palace. How are we going to go in?" Many young powerhouses frowned and looked deeply troubled.

Although the treasure was just right before their eyes, the main problem was they did not know whether they could make it in alive.

Somebody analyzed and voiced out his opinion, "Since the Martial Emperor left the palace here and asked us to enter to take the three Profundity Fragments from his body, there's no reason for him to shut us off outside completely."

Chapter 988: Entering the Palace

"Indeed. Since the Martial Emperor left this place behind with his body in there... Theoretically, it's impossible that he didn't want us to go in."

Many people agreed with that.

'Hmm?'

Just when everyone was at their wits' end about the Killing Formation before their eyes, Duan Ling Tian realized something when he released his Spiritual Energy.

He found out that after the Blade Sect's disciple was killed by the explosion from the Killing Formation that covered the palace, the Killing Formation seemed to have accomplished its duty and gradually faded away before it vanished entirely.

'Could it be... the Killing Formation the Martial Emperor set up outside the palace could be broken with a blood sacrifice from a human's life?' Duan Ling Tian raised his eyebrows as he secretly speculated.

Since he had merged with the Rebirth Martial Emperor's memories, he was no stranger to breaking a formation with a blood sacrifice.

As long the Inscription Master who set up the Killing Formation was willing, the Killing Formation could be broken with a blood sacrifice at any time. As long as somebody died from the Killing Formation, the Killing Formation would automatically be broken.

"Welcome, all of you lucky young people!"

When Duan Ling Tian was lost in his thoughts, a familiar yet unfamiliar voice entered everyone's ears. All of them were stunned by the voice.

A Polyphony Formation was activated since the Killing

Formation was broken!

Duan Ling Tian's Spiritual Energy figured it out in just an instant.

"It's the Martial Emperor's voice!"

At this moment, the group of young powerhouses present at the scene identified the owner of the voice. They had heard that voice a couple of times ever since they entered the Martial Emperor's secret treasure.

Soon after, the Martial Emperor's message proceeded to play from the Polyphony Formation. "The blood sacrifice is complete, and the Killing Formation has been broken... Lucky young people, all of you can now enter."

There was no emotion in the Martial Emperor's voice, it was extremely detached.

"The blood sacrifice is complete?"

When the group of young powerhouses present at the scene heard what the Martial Emperor said, they were initially stunned before they figured out what had happened. Their facial expression gradually changed.

"That means... The Blade Sect's disciple broke the Killing Formation with his own life?"

"Based on what the Martial Emperor said in his message, it's clear that someone must die to break the Killing Formation with a blood sacrifice! Luckily, I didn't rush in. Otherwise, I could've been the one who performed the blood sacrifice."

"That's too brutal! A life has to be sacrificed to break the Killing Formation outside the palace."

"Perhaps the inside of the palace is filled with danger."

• • •

The young powerhouses present at the scene discussed among

themselves. There was fear between their eyebrows, they feared the possible dangers that existed in the palace that the Martial Emperor left behind.

Even Zuo Yue and Xu Qing did not dare to move as they pleased after listening to the Martial Emperor's message.

"Let's go." Duan Ling Tian smiled lightly at Feng Tian Wu before he asked Huang Daniu, Su Li, and Zhang Shou Yong to come along. He took the lead by dashing in after he nodded at Peng Bao.

Feng Tian Wu followed closely behind, she trusted Duan Ling Tian wholeheartedly.

As long as Duan Ling Tian was by her side, she was not afraid even if they had to risk their lives.

To her, as long as she could die by her lover's side, there would be no regrets even if she died.

"Let's go!" Huang Daniu and the other two did not delay this time as they followed closely after Duan Ling Tian and Feng Tian Wu.

Duan Ling Tian descended from the sky and cleared the path with Spiritual Energy. He dashed toward the palace entrance directly, and soon after, he arrived before the big and magnificent door.

Duan Ling Tian stood before the door and extended both his hands. He pressed them on the door and exerted his strength!

'Rumble! Rumble! '

• • •

At this moment, the door slowly opened. It was a glorious scene.

"Let's go!" When the door opened, Duan Ling Tian called out to the four people around him and took the lead to dash in.

'Whoosh! Whoosh! '

• • •

Feng Tian Wu and the other three followed behind Duan Ling Tian. They vanished behind the door that was ajar and disappeared before the eyes of everyone who was outside.

"They're fine!" Many people's eyes lit up suddenly.

"Let's go in, too." Nangong Yi raised his eyebrows and entered the palace through the wide open door with Nangong Chen.

"Let's go!" Both Zhang Yan and Xuan Bei led the Emotion Severing Sect and Empyrean Temple's disciples who survived into the palace.

Subsequently, Peng Bao, Zuo Yue, and Xu Qing led the Anicca Sect and North Nether's Sect disciples into the palace.

'Whoosh!'

Duan Ling Tian was the first one to enter the palace.

As soon as he entered, his Spiritual Energy discovered the place was densely filled with an Inscription Formation's aura.

There was an Inscription Formation that encompassed the ground and air wherever he went.

"It's the Illusory Realm Formation!"

Duan Ling Tian halted his movement. His face became solemn as he mumbled, "It's the Illusory Realm Formation." He realized the Inscription Formation that he noticed earlier was the Illusory Realm Formation.

They had to pass through this if they wanted to enter the palace!

As soon as they entered the Illusory Realm Formation, they would enter an illusory realm. It was out of their control where they would end up after passing through the illusory realm.

"Illusory Realm Formation?"

Feng Tian Wu and the other three who were next to Duan Ling Tian heard his words and could not help but feel surprised.

They did not doubt what Duan Ling Tian had said at all.

"Yes, it's the Illusory Realm Formation." Duan Ling Tian nodded and said with all seriousness, "This Illusory Realm Formation isn't harmful at all. It's similar to the Illusory Formation that we experienced earlier. It'll just separate us, and we'll have to look for the treasures in this palace on our own."

The Illusory Formation was an abbreviation for the Illusory Realm Formation.

"We'll have to pass through it if we want to enter the palace... I'm afraid we'll have to part ways again," Duan Ling Tian said.

Huang Daniu looked at Duan Ling Tian and said reluctantly, "What the hell was that Martial Emperor trying to do? He keeps wanting to separate us... I want to be with you, there are so many benefits when I'm with you."

"How would I know what the hell he was thinking?" Duan Ling Tian was a little speechless when he looked at Huang Daniu complaining to him, and he rolled his eyes in irritation.

"Everyone, please be careful," Zhang Shou Yong said.

"Alright." Su Li nodded.

"Tian Wu." Duan Ling Tian looked at Feng Tian Wu next to him and solemnly said through Voice Transmission, "Unless it's absolutely necessary, don't ever use and perform Fire Profundity again! Otherwise, the Fire Spirit Body's energy in your body will erupt and harm your life."

"Yes." Feng Tian Wu understood the concern in Duan Ling Tian's words and revealed a rare smile on her gorgeous face that could win many people's hearts. At this moment, Duan Ling Tian became a little distracted.

When Feng Tian Wu noticed Duan Ling Tian was distracted by her, both of her beautiful cheeks were flushed. They were so red that they looked as though they were going to drip blood since she was extremely shy.

Duan Ling Tian looked away, embarrassed, as he awkwardly rubbed his nose. He then quickly changed the subject. "You guys can go in first."

"Let's go! Let's go find the Martial Emperor's body! I'll be rich if I find it first," Huang Daniu said excitedly before he dashed in.

Almost at the same time when Huang Daniu dashed in, his body was shrouded in black fog that appeared out of thin air. He then disappeared before Duan Ling Tian and the others' eyes. He had officially opened the Illusory Formation.

"Duan Ling Tian, I'll go ahead first." Su Li went into the Illusory Formation after speaking to Duan Ling Tian.

Soon after, Zhang Shou Yong followed suit.

"Big Brother Duan, please be careful too," Feng Tian Wu said to Duan Ling Tian. She only entered the Illusory Formation after hearing Duan Ling Tian's response.

'Whoosh! Whoosh!'

At this moment, another two silhouettes appeared next to Duan Ling Tian. He could not help but use his peripheral vision to look at them.

Duan Ling Tian recognized the duo in just one glance. They were Nangong Chen and Nangong Yi.

Duan Ling Tian nodded at the both of them and considered that his greeting. Without waiting for the duo to respond, he dashed into the black fog and vanished before the Nangong Twins' eyes.

"It's the Illusory Formation again!"

Nangong Yi frowned when he saw the familiar black fog before them. "That means the both of us will be separated again?"

Earlier when they had just entered, he was separated from Nangong Chen due to the Illusory Formation surrounding the stone staircase by the side of the platform. They only reunited again after venturing into the Martial Emperor's secret treasure for half a month.

Even that was the doing of the Telepathy between the both of them!

As twin brothers, as long as the distance between Nangong Yi and Nangong Chen was not too far apart, they could sense each other's rough location.

"Telepathy," Nangong Chen reminded while keeping his cool.

"Yes, Telepathy! How can I forget such an important thing... This palace is just the size of a palm. With our Telepathy, we'll be able to sense each other's location in an instant." Nangong Yi's eyes lit up after being reminded by Nangong Chen.

"Idiot!" Nangong Chen responded coolly and dashed into the Illusory Formation surrounded by black fog and disappeared before Nangong Yi could say anything.

"You're the idiot!" Nangong Yi rebuked with irritation written on his face.

Soon, Zhang Yan and Xuan Bei had also arrived.

"It's the Illusory Formation again!" Although they were surprised at the Illusory Formation before their eyes, the duo did not delay any further and dashed into it directly and was shrouded within the Illusory Formation.

Later on, the Five Element Sect, Blade Sect, Empyrean Temple and Emotion Severing Sect's disciples entered one by one.

Disciples from the six forces who entered from Entrance No.2 were only left with disciples from the four forces that survived.

Meanwhile, all of the disciples from the other two forces were killed!

As the group from Entrance No.2 entered the Illusory Formation,

the group who came from Entrance No.1 arrived later in the palace one by one.

They were led by Xu Qing and Zuo Yue.

"Let's go!" Xu Qing called out to the three remaining disciples from North Nether Sect and dashed into the Illusory Formation.

"Duan Ling Tian, I really hope that you have something you've yet to display when you used your spirit weapon earlier. Otherwise, if I find out the 1600 ancient horned dragons' strength with the help of the spirit weapon is all you got... I'll definitely kill you!" Zuo Yue's eyes gleamed coldly after Xu Qing and the others went in.

Until now, Zuo Yue could not forget about the Profundity Fragment in Duan Ling Tian's hands.

Chapter 989: One-in-Four Stone Room

If Duan Ling Tian had revealed all he had and only had 1,600 ancient horned dragons' strength with the help of a spirit weapon...

Zuo Yue was completely confident he could kill Duan Ling Tian!

With his comprehension at the Fourth Level Void Transformation Concept and cultivation base at the Fourth Level Void Transformation, his strength was equivalent to more than 1620 ancient horned dragons' strength.

He would be ashamed to be called the most powerful young man in Anicca Sect if he could not kill Duan Ling Tian when he had twenty more ancient horned dragons' strength than what Duan Lian Tian possessed!

"Duan Ling Tian seemed to have performed a few high-level Concepts when he fought Lei Zhong."

Zuo Yue's eyes gleamed when he recalled the scene of Duan Ling Tian fighting Lei Zhong and thought to himself secretly, 'Perhaps among the 1200 ancient horned dragons' strength that he displayed without using a spirit weapon, Concepts contributed more to his strength than Origin Energy did..."

"That means even if he gets a boost from a spirit weapon, it wouldn't be much..." Zuo Yue became even more certain of that fact when he thought about it.

"Now the only thing that's left is to confirm my speculation... As soon as I determine Duan Ling Tian's full strength is equivalent to 1600 ancient horned dragons' strength, I'll kill him before the people from Izumo Sect can kill him!"

Naturally, Duan Ling Tian was oblivious to the thoughts running through Zuo Yue's mind. Otherwise, he would definitely be shocked by his speculation.

Just as Zuo Yue had speculated, Duan Ling Tian's strength was largely occupied by Concepts and less by Origin Energy.

1600 ancient horned dragons' strength was the current limit that Duan Ling Tian could perform!

"It was a grassland earlier... And now it's a desert?"

Duan Ling Tian was in a vast and endless desert in the Illusory Formation. Sand filled the endless desert, there were no greens or blues to be seen at all.

"Young man, head to the east."

Just as Duan Ling Tian was looking around and did not know which way to go, a familiar yet unfamiliar voice entered his ears. It was a message from the Martial Emperor who left the secret treasure behind.

'To the east!'

After hearing the hint, Duan Ling Tian figured out the direction of his destination. He leaped into the air and flew to the east at an alarming speed.

Duan Ling Tian thought it would be similar to the previous time when he arrived at the destination directly by going straight.

However, he soon realized that it was a silly thought.

"Young man, head north."

"Young man, head west."

"Young man, head southwest."

. . .

The Martial Emperor's message that played from the Polyphony Formation, combined with the Illusory Formation, entered Duan Ling Tian's ears clearly, and he rushed here and there.

Finally, Duan Ling Tian arrived at the end.

"Where is that Martial Emperor leading me to... I had to change

directions so many times." Questions filled Duan Ling Tian's head as he walked out of the Illusory Formation.

As soon as he walked out of the Illusory Formation, a long and spacious corridor appeared before Duan Ling Tian's eyes.

There was an entire row of stone room on both sides of the corridor.

Sculptures of a human or a beast were presented on each of the stone room's entrance. It was disconcerting since they looked very life-like.

"These stone rooms..."

Duan Ling Tian was curious so he approached the first stone room and looked in to see what was inside.

In just a glance, he saw there was a stone platform in the stone room that could not be considered as spacious. There was a sword that was stabbed into the stone platform, the sword seemed extraordinary.

"A grade two Spirit Sword!"

Duan Ling Tian possessed the Rebirth Martial Emperor's memories and inherited the Rebirth Martial Emperor's eyes of a Royal Grade weapon craftsman. He could tell a spirit weapon's grade just by looking at it while ordinary people would have to test it to determine the grade.

"There's a grade two Spirit Sword in here?"

Duan Ling Tian was momentarily stunned before he stepped into the stone room. "Although this sword is a grade two spirit weapon, the material that was used is great... It's worth keeping."

Duan Ling Tian's interest grew, and he prepared to enter the stone room to grab the grade two Spirit Sword. However, his expression changed drastically as soon as he stepped into the stone room.

'Whoosh!'

An ear-piercing whistling noise entered his ears almost immediately and a heavy fist followed suit.

To be exact, it was a stone fist.

The human sculpture that was standing at the stone room's entrance moved. It punched at Duan Ling Tian as quick as lightning as soon as he stepped into the stone room.

A wave of blue energy surrounded the human sculpture's fist, the magnificent energy rumbled and seemed capable of destroying everything.

However, Duan Ling Tian lifted his arm with lightning speed, and the human sculpture's stone fist was unfortunately caught by him easily without any obstacles.

From the beginning until the end, Duan Ling Tian had a calm expression on his face, and he did not feel any pressure at all.

'Bang!'

At this moment, the human sculpture moved again. With a loud thud, its foot stepped out and landed on the ground.

Subsequently, the other foot extended like a lightning and attacked Duan Ling Tian's lower body. The blue wave turned rampant like a terrifying ocean wave that swept toward Duan Ling Tian.

Meanwhile, the Heaven and Earth Energy rumbled above its head and eventually formed 180 ancient horned dragons' silhouettes.

That meant the human sculpture's strength was equivalent to three hundred ancient horned dragon's strength!

'Seventh Level Void Interpretation? First Level Advanced Water Concept?'

Although the human sculpture's speed was fast, in Duan Ling Tian's eyes, it was as slow as a turtle that it was not even worth mentioning.

Duan Ling Tian kicked a foot out casually that only contained Origin Energy and broke the human sculpture's leg that was closing in on him.

'Bang!'

The human sculpture's leg broke, it was thrown out and smashed on the ground. It had currently turned into a pile of gravels and powder.

'Bang!'

At the same time, Duan Ling Tian shook his hand and punched his fist out. The glorious energy swept toward the human sculpture and smashed it completely into powder.

At this moment, ten Origin Stones and a blue fragment appeared before Duan Ling Tian's eyes.

The blue fragment was naturally the Water Concept Fragment.

"The Inscription Formation in the human sculpture was hidden deeply... I didn't use my Spiritual Energy to investigate earlier so I didn't manage to detect anything at all," Duan Ling Tian mumbled.

"Ten mid-grade Origin Stones, and a First Level Water Concept Fragment... The reward isn't too bad." Duan Ling Tian was quite satisfied with the reward he received from just a casual punch and kick.

After taking the grade two Spirit Sword away from the stone room, Duan Ling Tian proceeded to the next stone room.

There was a medicinal pill bottle in the next stone room.

"I wonder what medicinal pill that is..." Feeling curious, Duan Ling Tian ignored the beast sculpture at the stone room's entrance and dashed into the stone room in an instant. He grabbed the medicinal pill bottle immediately.

He realized there were three medicinal pills in the bottle after

opening it.

"Grade two Life Recovery Pill? The purity isn't even at 70%...
This is trash!" Duan Ling Tian then tossed the medicinal pill bottle on the ground as he frowned. The three grade two Life Recovery Pills in there were nothing to him.

People would definitely condemn Duan Ling Tian for being spoiled if they witnessed this!

Those were grade two Life Recovery Pills! They were high-grade Healing Medicinal Pills!

Not any ordinary person could simply own it. However, to Duan Ling Tian, these grade two Life Recovery Pills with a purity that was less than 70% were trash. Trash that was not worth mentioning at all!

He had integrated with the life-long medicine refining methods and experience from the Rebirth Martial Emperor and had managed to refine a grade one Pill Fire. He had already become a respectable grade one Alchemist.

As long as he had sufficient medicinal herbs, let alone high purity grade two Life Recovery Pills, he could even refine high purity grade one Life Recovery Pills confidently without any pressure.

However, the beast sculpture that was watching the stone room did not think the three grade two Life Recovery Pills were trash like Duan Ling Tian did.

Almost at the moment when Duan Ling Tian tossed the medicinal pill bottle away, the beast sculpture at the stone room entrance moved. Fire surged from its body as it pounced toward Duan Ling Tian.

The beast sculpture's ability was similar to the human sculpture earlier. It was nothing to Duan Ling Tian.

He did not even need to use his Concept as he swept his Third Level Void Transformation Origin Energy together with the energy in his body toward the sculpture.

'Bang! Bang! Bang! Bang! '

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The beast sculpture destroyed by Duan Ling Tian turned into gravels and turned into a tiny hill.

Earlier, Duan Ling Tian managed to obtain ten mid-grade Origin Stones and a First Level Fire Concept Fragment from the human sculpture with his lightning-fast hands.

'Is there any treasure that's more exciting in here?'

Duan Ling Tian swept through the corridor, all of the sculptures at the stone rooms' entrances were destroyed by him, and some of the stone rooms were also messed up.

However, he only managed to obtain some grade two and grade one spirit weapons.

As for medicinal pills, he threw all of them away.

Those included precious Healing Medicinal Pills such as grade one Life Recovery Pills. He threw them away like they were trash.

In Duan Ling Tian's opinion, grade two and grade one spirit weapons could be reforged even if their quality were not good.

However, it was a different story for medicinal pills.

Medicinal pills with low purity were an eyesore to him. He did not even bother to put grade one medicinal pills into his Spatial Ring.

'I've arrived at the end?'

Without noticing, Duan Ling Tian realized that he had arrived at the corridor's end.

Along the way, the sculptures at each of the stone room's entrance were getting progressively stronger.

However, when faced with his overwhelming strength, even

sculptures that were more powerful could barely take his attack and were destroyed by him one by one.

"There's one more stone room here."

When Duan Ling Tian arrived at the end of the corridor, he saw a stone room before him. It was an isolated stone room.

Duan Ling Tian headed in there without any hesitation.

Right at this moment, Duan Ling Tian sensed a faint aura from an Inscription Formation.

"Congratulations, young man. You've arrived at the One-in-Four Stone Room... If you're the only one left in the halo after an hour, you can enter the One-in-Four Stone Room and receive the treasure that you deserve."

'One-in-Four Stone Room?'

The edge of Duan Ling Tian's lips twitched when he heard the stone room's name.

Chapter 990: Immortal Spirit Herb

"Halo? What halo?" Duan Ling Tian looked around, but he did not see any halo the Martial Emperor mentioned in his message.

However, at this moment, he noticed a light shooting inside the stone room out of nowhere, and the light turned into a halo as it landed.

All of a sudden, his entire being was shrouded in the halo.

"If I'm the only one left in the halo after an hour, I'll be able to enter that something called One-in-Four Stone Room and obtain the treasures in there?"

Since Duan Ling Tian found the halo the Martial Emperor mentioned, he quickly switched his attention elsewhere.

Soon after, Duan Ling Tian noticed that apart from the corridor that he entered from, there were corridors in the other three directions in the One-in-Four Stone Room.

"Could there be another three people?"

At this moment, Duan Ling Tian could faintly guess how the name One-in-Four Stone Room came about.

One-in-Four meant forfeit three people among the four while the remaining one would enter.

"Seems like when there's only one person left in the halo after an hour... The One-in-Four Stone Room will officially open."

It was not difficult for Duan Ling Tian to figure that out.

"The other three people... I wonder who they are."

Duan Ling Tian's eyes gleamed as he stared at the other three corridors. "It's obvious their ability isn't powerful since they've yet to arrive until now... It's impossible for them to be Xu Qing, Zuo Yue or Peng Bao."

"Luckily I managed to run fast. Otherwise, I would've been killed by that stupid stone man... At that time, my fame would be completely destroyed!"

All of a sudden, Duan Ling Tian heard a loud voice coming from one of the corridors, and it caused the expression on his face to turn extremely odd.

"What a coincidence." A half-smile appeared on Duan Ling Tian's lips as he looked at that corridor.

Meanwhile, a big and strong silhouette appeared before his eyes.

"Duan... Duan Ling Tian?!" As the big young man walked out of the corridor while he was complaining, he noticed the purple-clad young man standing nearby. A shocked expression appeared on his face.

"Daniu, we really have fate..." Duan Ling Tian could not help but smile when he saw the strong young man.

The person who came was none other than Huang Daniu!

"Haha... Duan Ling Tian, seems like my luck is good. Even god is helping me, it's God's will that I met you here! Let's go, help me kill those stupid stone men. I want those spirit weapons and bottles of medicinal pills," Huang Daniu said as his eyes lit up.

Naturally, Duan Ling Tian knew which stone men Huang Daniu was talking about. They were those human sculptures in the corridor that he destroyed earlier.

Those sculptures were nothing to him, but some of them were invincible to Huang Daniu.

"Let's go."

Duan Ling Tian figured there was still almost an hour until the One-in-Four Stone Room opened so he followed Huang Daniu and entered the corridor that Huang Daniu came from.

It was a killing spree again, Duan Ling Tian destroyed each and

every human and beast sculptures that Huang Daniu could not defeat.

Meanwhile, all Huang Daniu did was sit back and relax as he picked up the spirit weapons and medicinal pills from the stone rooms one by one. He was smiling like a kid.

"Daniu, there's something I need to tell you." When Duan Ling Tian saw how happy Huang Daniu was, Duan Ling Tian planned to pour cold water on him so that he would wake up from his daydream.

"Yea?" Huang Daniu looked at Duan Ling Tian suspiciously, but the smile on his face remained.

"There's an isolated stone room at the end of this corridor, only one person can enter... Including me and you, there'll be a total of four people joining in the fight." Duan Ling Tian proceeded to tell him whatever he knew about the stone room.

"Damn! What kind of shitty luck do I have that I was arranged to fight you... I wonder who the other ill-fated people are apart from me." Huang Daniu could not help but curse when he heard what Duan Ling Tian said. Resentment was written on his face when he spoke.

"Daniu, you sure change really fast... Who was the one who said he has great luck that even god helped him to meet me here?" Duan Ling Tian looked at Huang Daniu and smiled wryly. He remembered everything Huang Daniu said when they met earlier.

"Well, I didn't know about this 'special stone room' when I said that... I'm so unlucky to be arranged to fight a freak like you." Huang Daniu forced a smile.

Soon, he returned to normal. "Luckily there are two more ill-fated people accompanying me... Let's go, let's see who the other two ill-fated guys are!"

When Duan Ling Tian and Huang Daniu returned to the One-in-

Four Stone Room, they noticed there were already two young men standing there, and the atmosphere was tense.

The two young men stared at each other, and tension was rife between them.

They shifted their attention when Duan Ling Tian appeared.

One glance was enough to change their expressions completely.

"Duan-Duan Ling Tian!"

One of them gulped as his face turned pale while the other did not fare any better. When he looked at Duan Ling Tian, there was fear in his eyes as though he had encountered some catastrophic beast.

"No fun... I thought it would be people from the second-rate forces, it's just the both of you." Huang Daniu, who was next to Duan Ling Tian, could not help but feel a little disappointed when he saw the duo.

Duan Ling Tian smiled as he shook his head.

Naturally, he knew why Huang Daniu said that. He wanted to witness those second-rate forces' disciples beaten up before his eyes. However, who would have known the duo who were arranged to fight them were not disciples from second-rate forces.

Duan Ling Tian had a little impression on the two people before him.

One of them was an Emotion Severing Sect's disciple while the other was a monk disciple from the Empyrean Temple.

"So? Are the two of you going to fight me?" Duan Ling Tian walked to the halo surrounding the isolated stone room slowly as he looked at the both of them with narrowed eyes. He wore a smile that did not look like a smile on his face.

"No! No!"

"I'm not doing that! I'll leave right away."

The both of them waved their hands clumsily and retreated from the halo in the isolated room as though they were running for their lives. They then disappeared into the corridors they came from.

'That's not funny!'

They encountered the person who killed the most powerful person in Izumo Sect, a second-rate force, how would they dare to fight him.

All of a sudden, the only two left outside the One-in-Four Stone Room were Duan Ling Tian and Huang Daniu.

Huang Daniu quickly retreated from the halo since he knew his place.

"Duan Ling Tian, you're going to be rich this time... The treasures in this isolated something called the One-in-Four Stone Room must be extraordinary!" Huang Daniu looked at Duan Ling Tian enviously as he stood outside the halo.

Duan Ling Tian smiled and did not say much. However, his eyes that were gleaming brightly revealed the anticipation he felt for the treasures in the stone room.

Time went by silently. Soon, an hour had passed.

'Fwah! Fwah! Fwah! Fwah!'

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As the halo surrounding the stone room flashed, a light shield rose around the halo. It then shrouded Duan Ling Tian together with the One-in-Four Stone Room as though it was forming an isolated space.

Duan Ling Tian detected what the light shield was with his Spiritual Energy the second it appeared. He reminded Huang Daniu instantly, "Daniu, don't touch the light shield... It's a Killing Formation!"

Huang Daniu nodded solemnly before he spoke up, "The stone

room's opened, go in quick!"

When Duan Ling Tian heard Huang Daniu's reminder, Duan Ling Tian realized a stone door had appeared at the side of the One-in-Four Room that was initially closed. The stone door was pushed away and was wide open.

After saying goodbye to Huang Daniu, Duan Ling Tian dashed into the stone room.

The instant Duan Ling Tian entered, the stone door at the side of the stone room closed again, effectively trapping Duan Ling Tian inside.

"So unlucky, I'm completely out of luck..." Huang Daniu shook his head and left as he turned around. He left to look for 'opportunities' that belonged to him.

As Duan Ling Tian passed through the stone door that was wide open, he arrived in a spacious stone room.

Looking at the stone room, it was not too different from the stone rooms he had gone into earlier.

If he had to state a difference, the only difference was there was no spirit weapon nor were there any medicinal pill bottles with medicinal pills in the room.

'Rrrrr!'

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Suddenly, a faint noise appeared behind Duan Ling Tian. The noise changed his expression completely.

When he finally responded to the noise, Duan Ling Tian realized the stone door behind him was closed again. He was locked in this airtight stone room with no ventilation.

Just when Duan Ling Tian was planning to leave by breaking the door, the noise sounded again.

'Rrrrr! Rrrrr! Rrrrr! '

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The loud noise came from above his head, and Duan Ling Tian could not help but look as he lifted his head.

With just a glance, Duan Ling Tian saw the stone room's ceiling was moving automatically. It was opened, and a path out of the stone room was opened for him.

"Congratulations, young one... You're one step closer to my body."

At this moment, the Martial Emperor's voice entered Duan Ling Tian's ears. His Spiritual Energy detected the Polyphony Formation was activated in the stone room when the ceiling moved.

'One step closer?'

Initially, Duan Ling Tian did not understand the Martial Emperor's message entirely.

Soon, he recalled the One-in-Four experience that he went through earlier and seemed to understand something. "It seems like when the One-in-Four was happening on my side so I can proceed to the next level.... There are other One-in-Four going on in other places at the same time!"

"Only the ones who manage to walk to the end will see the Martial Emperor's body and get the three Profundity Fragments in his body!"

It was not difficult for Duan Ling Tian to figure that out.

"The treasures in this stone room..."

When Duan Ling Tian realized he was not locked in the stone room, he looked at the treasures on the stone platform nearby in relief.

It was a plant that was planted in a pot. It was entirely green, and it was sparkling with a faint green light.

To be exact, it was a herb.

"What is this..."

Duan Ling Tian realized how extraordinary this herb was when he saw the sparkling green light on it. However, he could not figure out what it was. The only thing he could do was to browse through the Rebirth Martial Emperor's memories for related information.

"It's the Immortal Spirit Herb!" Duan Ling Tian soon found the answer. It was an answer that shocked him and made him rejoice!!

Chapter 991: Martial Emperor Qing Feng

"Immortal Spirit Herb, it's the Immortal Spirit Herb!"

"Hahahaha... Xiong Quan's Dantian will be healed! Xiong Quan's Dantian will be healed!"

Duan Ling Tian's joy was written all over his face. He was laughing to the point that he had lost his usual composure. There were excitement and joy in his laughter.

Xiong Quan followed him wherever he went back in the days when he was still in the Crimson Sky Kingdom. He did his best to serve Duan Ling Tian without a single word of complaint.

He even helped him extricate himself from many critical situations back in those days so that he remained safe and sound.

A few years later, when they were at the Eternal Jade Restaurant in the Ancient City of Everlast of Azure Forest Imperial Kingdom, Xiong Quan had his Dantian destroyed by a Void Initiation martial artist when he was protecting Duan Ling Tian. Since then, he left Duan Ling Tian and returned to his hometown.

Throughout the years, Duan Ling Tian did not forget about Xiong Quan's Dantian being destroyed, not even for a second did he forget about that matter!

In fact, he felt guiltier as time passed, he felt like he owed Xiong Quan too much.

The last time he returned to his hometown after the Darkhan Dynasty Martial Competition ended, he did not visit Xiong Quan at all due to the guilt he felt.

At that time, he had made up his mind.

The next time he met Xiong Quan again would be the time he healed his Dantian.

"Initially, I thought that I'll only obtain the Quasi Royal Grade

Resurrection Pill when I find the Rebirth Martial Emperor's great treasure to help Xiong Quan heal his Dantian... I didn't expect to see the Immortal Spirit Herb here!"

Duan Ling Tian's eyes revealed a hint of excitement when he looked at the plant with three leaves before his eyes.

Even in the Rebirth Martial Emperor's memory, the Immortal Spirit Herb only existed in legends, people had only heard of it but had never seen it before.

The Immortal Spirit Herb was a legendary medicinal herb.

Duan Ling Tian had to give credit to the Rebirth Martial Emperor's memory for being able to identify the Immortal Spirit Herb today.

Although the Rebirth Martial Emperor had never seen the Immortal Spirit Herb before, he had heard many legends about the Immortal Spirit Herb and knew some of its characteristics.

The Immortal Spirit Herb had straight roots and leaves with a green glow.

The most crucial part is the pattern on its leaves that was completely different from usual herbs.

The usual herbs would have a straight line in the middle while its pattern branched out on both sides.

However, the pattern on the Immortal Spirit Herb was a spiral, and a green glow spread out from the middle. It gave off an extraordinary feeling.

That was how Duan Ling Tian identified the plant with three leaves as the Immortal Spirit Herb that he had always wanted.

Although he knew of the Immortal Spirit Herb's existence in the past and that it could help Xiong Quan heal his Dantian, the Immortal Spirit Herb was too ethereal and unreal that he did not dream he would obtain it one day.

He thought he would have to find the Quasi Royal Grade Resurrection Pill or the Royal Grade Resurrection Pill from the great treasure the Rebirth Martial Emperor left behind to help Xiong Quan heal his Dantian.

"With this Immortal Spirit Herb, I don't have to wait until I find the great treasure the Martial Emperor left behind to retrieve the Resurrection Pill to help Xiong Quan heal his Dantian!"

Duan Ling Tian was overjoyed as he looked at the Immortal Spirit Herb before his eyes.

"There's a total of three leaves on the Immortal Spirit Herb... I only need one to heal Xiong Quan's Dantian! As for the remaining two, I'll give one to Big Brother Zhang so that he can heal his wife's Dantian."

Duan Ling Tian came up with a plan as he looked at the Immortal Spirit Herb before his eyes.

Zhang Shou Yong's wife, Wang Qiong, also had her Dantian damaged, and she could no longer cultivate.

Perhaps Zhang Shou Yong's current ability was nothing compared to him, but it was Zhang Shou Yong who saved his life at the Eternal Jade Restaurant in the Ancient City of Everlast back then.

Otherwise, he would not be able to achieve what he had achieved today.

Therefore, he must return the favor by many folds due to the fact that Zhang Shou Yong saved his life!

"Big Brother Zhang will be very happy if he knows about this."

Duan Ling Tian took a deep breath and put the Immortal Spirit Herb away like a precious treasure.

The Immortal Spirit Herb was different from the usual herbs that wilted easily.

The Immortal Spirit Herb, as a legendary medicinal herb, would not wilt even if it was removed from the soil.

'Seems like I'll need to alter my plan a little after leaving the Martial Emperor's secret treasure... I must return to Darkhan Dynasty to heal Xiong Quan and Big Brother Zhang's wife's Dantians. Only after that, I'll look for the great treasure the Rebirth Martial Emperor left behind.' Duan Ling Tian thought to himself secretly.

From the moment he killed Lei Zhong, he had planned to leave Five Element Sect. He did not plan to stay in the northern desert as well.

He would look for the great treasure the Rebirth Martial Emperor left behind in his second life despite the fact that he had yet to identify the exact location of the treasure up until now.

However, he would be able to identify the location as long as he found a rough map of Cloud Continent. He would then be able to retrieve the great treasure the Rebirth Martial Emperor left behind.

Now that he found the Immortal Spirit Herb in the Martial Emperor's secret treasure by accident, it changed his plan.

He decided there was no hurry to look for the great treasure the Rebirth Martial Emperor left behind after he left the Martial Emperor's secret treasure. He would return to the Darkhan Dynasty first so that he could help Xiong Quan and Wang Qiong heal their Dantians.

He would plan for the rest at a later date.

"I wonder what's up there."

Duan Ling Tian was pulled back to reality after putting the Immortal Spirit Herb away. He looked at the ceiling that was wide open when he lifted his head. His eyes lit up, and he leaped into the air.

'Whoosh!'

In just an instant, Duan Ling Tian leaped and arrived at another place as he left the One-in-Four Stone Room beneath his feet.

"This... looks like the other level of the central palace?"

Duan Ling Tian looked around for a while and faintly speculated as his heart jolted.

The central palace was the palace located in the central area of the Martial Emperor's secret treasure. It was also the place where the Martial Emperor who left this Martial Emperor's secret treasure behind ended his life, and where his body was located.

Most of the young powerhouses, including Duan Ling Tian, came for the three Profundity Fragments in the Martial Emperor's body.

Especially the Emperor Stage Profundity Fragment. One could imagine how precious it was since it was ranked as the top treasure in the entire Cloud Continent.

Even if the person who obtained the Emperor Stage Profundity Fragment could not use it personally, he could find a Ninth Level Monarch Stage powerhouse who had comprehended the corresponding profundity and give it to him as a favor.

That person could even get the Ninth Level Monarch Stage powerhouse to swear on the Ninety-Nine Heavenly Tribulation to protect him for life.

As soon as he obtained the Emperor Stage Profundity Fragment, breaking through to the Martial Emperor Stage and becoming a Martial Emperor powerhouse was not difficult at all.

In that case, it was equivalent to having a Martial Emperor powerhouse to depend on!

Would that not mean that person would be invincible on the Cloud Continent since that person had a Martial Emperor powerhouse to depend on in the future?

"If I didn't remember it wrong... There are a total of five levels in this palace where the Martial Emperor powerhouse ended his life." Duan Ling Tian pondered for a while.

Although there were only five levels in the palace, the height of each level exceeded the height of normal palaces.

Therefore, although there were only five levels in this palace, it seemed to be extraordinarily tall.

"Young one, welcome to the Qing Feng Palace's second level... Since you managed to get here, you're worthy of knowing my honorific title! Martial Emperor Qing Feng is my honorific title."

Just as Duan Ling Tian took a step forward and realized that he had activated the Polyphony Formation once again, a familiar yet unfamiliar voice entered his ears.

"Qing Feng Palace? Martial Emperor Qing Feng?" Duan Ling Tian's eyes lit up when he heard the voice.

He knew nothing about the Martial Emperor who left this Martial Emperor's secret treasure behind since the beginning when he journeyed here and until now after he had entered the palace.

Now that the Martial Emperor who left this Martial Emperor's secret treasure behind took the initiative to introduce himself, Duan Ling Tian finally knew his honorific title.

Since Duan Ling Tian had the Rebirth Martial Emperor's memory in him, it was natural for him to know that all Martial Emperors on the Cloud Continent had honorific titles of their own that they carried through their entire lives.

Just like the Rebirth Martial Emperor, it was also an honorific title.

Martial Emperor Qing Feng was the honorific title of the Martial Emperor who left this Martial Emperor's secret treasure behind...

'Since this is the Qing Feng Palace's second level... Then I should

be on the first level earlier. There are a total of five levels in the Qing Feng Palace, does this mean we'll have to ascend level by level?' Duan Ling Tian speculated secretly.

As if it was responding to Duan Ling Tian's speculation, Martial Emperor Qing Feng's voice sounded again. "I've set up a Nine-Nine Wooden Figure Stage on Qing Feng Palace's second level... The first person who breaks through the Nine-Nine Wooden Figure Stage will receive a copper key and will be granted permission to enter the Qing Feng Palace's third level."

"The Mirror Image Illusory Formation will vanish, and the Nine-Nine Wooden Figure Stage will be activated ten breaths later!"

Martial Emperor Qing Feng's voice entered Duan Ling Tian's ears clearly.

'Mirror Image Illusory Formation?'

Duan Ling Tian's eyes narrowed after he heard what Martial Emperor Qing Feng said. He extended his Spiritual Energy out immediately and realized that everything around him was an illusion.

It was all illusory mirror images made up by the Mirror Image Illusory Formation, they did not exist at all. He could only look at them but not touch them.

"Nine-Nine Wooden Figure Stage? What's that? Wooden Figure?"

Throughout the next ten breaths, Duan Ling Tian thought to himself, 'So what if there are so many of them if they're Wooden Figures? They'll turn into scattering powder when I fight them with all my strength!" Duan Ling Tian was very confident about his current ability.

However, subconsciously, he knew the Nine-Nine Wooden Figure Stage would not be as easy as he thought. After all, it was a test the Martial Emperor left behind.

'This is the Qing Feng Palace's second level... Theoretically, this

Nine-Nine Wooden Figure Stage should be more powerful than the human and beast sculptures on the first level,' Duan Ling Tian speculated secretly as he drew on his experience on the Qing Feng Palace's first level.

"Also... Those who managed to pass through the Nine-Nine Wooden Figure Stage would only obtain one copper key? Isn't this Martial Emperor Qing Feng too stingy?" Duan Ling Tian's thought to himself as his heart jolted.

He figured something was wrong after changing his mindset. "It's the Qing Feng Palace's second level... Theoretically, the reward for breaking through each level would definitely not be any lower than the value of the grade one spirit weapons and medicinal pills!"

"Perhaps, there's some secret hidden behind the copper key that I don't know about!" The more Duan Ling Tian thought about it, the more certain he became.

Chapter 992: The Odd Stone Platform

Ten breaths were neither that long of a time nor was it entirely short.

When Duan Ling Tian was lost in his thoughts, ten breaths passed by just like that.

After ten breaths had passed, Duan Ling Tian noticed all the mirror images that were made by the Mirror Image Illusory Formation had disappeared.

At the same time, he appeared in another corridor again.

In comparison to the corridor on the Qing Feng Palace's first level, the corridor on the second level seemed to be more narrow.

Apart from that, there were wooden figures standing in the Qing Feng Palace's second level corridor. Their presence was quite conspicuous.

These wooden figures were paired up in twos and threes. They were either standing on the ground or hovering in mid-air, effectively blocking the path that led to the other end of the corridor completely. Nobody could pass through it at all.

The group of wooden figures in the corridor looked extra stiff, they did not move at all since Duan Ling Tian saw them.

'So this is the Nine-Nine Wooden Figure Stage?' Duan Ling Tian thought to himself as he raised his eyebrows.

When he extended his Spiritual Energy out, he soon found out what the wooden figures were.

These wooden figures were no different from those human and beast sculptures with Inscription Formation on their bodies on the Qing Feng Palace's first level.

Similarly, there were also Origin Stones and Concept Fragments in their bodies.

Although Duan Ling Tian's Spiritual Energy could not detect how powerful the Concept Fragments were in these wooden figures' bodies, it was not difficult for him to guess these wooden figures' abilities. It would definitely be a lot more powerful than those human and beast sculptures on the Qing Feng Palace's first level.

If that was not the case, it was unnecessary to divide them into two levels!

"Also, the wood that they're made of... It's not like the usual material."

Soon after, the Spiritual Energy that Duan Ling Tian extended out detected the density of the wood the wooden figures were made from was far more powerful than usual rocks.

"I get it now... Although these fellows are made of wood, their bodies are much more powerful than those sculptures on the Qing Feng Palace's first level! Their bodies' movements are more agile when they move." Duan Ling Tian took a deep breath, he did not dare to underestimate these wooden figures anymore.

"Oh, yes! Martial Emperor Qing Feng mentioned... Only the first person who breaks through the Nine-Nine Wooden Figure Stage will get the bronze key to enter the third level of Qing Feng Palace!"

As the thought flashed through his mind, Duan Ling Tian's facial expression changed all of a sudden as he recalled the content of the message that Martial Emperor Qing Feng left earlier.

"Damn it! How can I forget about this!"

Duan Ling Tian panicked as he recalled how much time he had wasted earlier.

How could he be distracted by these wooden figures during such a critical time?

Moreover, him using his Spiritual Energy to investigate what the wooden figures were made of was completely unnecessary and showed that he had no sense of urgency.

To him, the most important thing now was to break through this Nine-Nine Wooden Figure Stage before him, obtain the thing called the bronze key, and head to the Qing Feng Palace's third level.

'Whirlwind!'

Duan Ling Tian did not dare to delay any further and dashed in. It seemed as though his entire being was transformed into a hurricane as he dashed to the other end of the corridor.

Just as Duan Ling Tian dashed like a purple lightning across the corridor, something happened when he was tens of meters away from the three wooden figures that stood in front.

'Krak! Krak! Krak!'

• • •

Three wooden figures' stiff bodies shook suddenly and a clear sound reverberated. It was as if they were activated at that moment.

However, Duan Ling Tian did not find that surprising.

As he was getting closer to the wooden figures, his sensitive Spiritual Energy noticed that he had unintentionally activated an Inscription Formation.

Moreover, he had activated all the Inscription Formations in the wooden figures along the corridor!

'Whoosh! Whoosh!'

The three wooden figures closest to Duan Ling Tian attacked him almost simultaneously. They looked menacing.

The Origin Energies in their bodies ran rampant and quickly integrated with their Concepts. They demonstrated their powerful strengths and charged at Duan Ling Tian without mercy.

'Fwah! Fwah! Fwah!'

At the same time, five hundred ancient horned dragons' silhouettes appeared above the three wooden figures' heads. They charged toward Duan Ling Tian ferociously.

Even a First Level Void Transformation martial artist who had comprehended the First Level Void Transformation Concept only had a strength equivalent to four hundred ancient horned dragons without using any spirit weapons.

The three wooden figures with five hundred ancient horned dragons' strength charged quickly as they attacked, the air current trembled in the space followed by an ear-piercing sound of air explosion.

The noise from the air explosion swept through like an airwave continuously as they transformed into a strong gust of wind that caused the purple robe on Duan Ling Tian to flap noisily.

Faced with the three wooden figures' attacks, Duan Ling Tian's face remained unchanged. He did not even look them straight in their eyes.

"Die!" A cold voice came out of Duan Ling Tian's mouth.

Without knowing when, a three-foot-long blade that was formed completely from khaki energy appeared in his hand that was slightly lifted. He shook all of a sudden.

'Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh!'

• • •

As soon as Duan Ling Tian spoke, a series of quick sword whistling sound came like pouring rain. They came continuously and did not stop at all.

'Whoosh!'

When the sword whistling sound died down, Duan Ling Tian extended his other arm into the air and caught tens of mid-grade Origin Stones and three Concept Fragments that appeared out of

thin air.

Soon after, Duan Ling Tian dashed toward the next group of wooden figures.

As soon as Duan Ling Tian moved, the three wooden figures that were rushing at him were fiercely blasted in the air and turned into pieces of broken wood. They fell onto the ground like rain.

"Pa! Pa! Pa! Pa! Pa!'

• • •

As soon as the three wooden figures turned into hundreds, possibly even thousands, of broken wood that fell on the ground, a shower of wood began to fall nearby. The same thing happened for a long time without stopping.

'Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh!'

. . .

The quick purple silhouette would vanish from where he was in an instant and appear deeper into the corridor in the next second.

Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh!'

•••

There would be gusts of ear-piercing sword whistling sound without fail whenever he appeared, and it would be followed by a shower of wooden pieces.

There would also be countless broken wood pieces all over the place wherever he went.

"I've killed 78 of them... There are three more! Nine-Nine Wooden Figure Stage, nine multiplied by nine equals to 81... So, that's how it is!"

Duan Ling Tian's eyes gleamed when he figured it out. He quickly dashed toward the last three wooden figures like a bolt of purple lightning.

The three wooden figures with eight hundred ancient horned dragons' silhouettes above each of their heads had rampant energies that combined the Origin Energies and Concepts in their bodies. They were attacking Duan Ling Tian simultaneously like thunders.

"Right on time!"

This time, Duan Ling Tian did not fight them with the three-footlong blade formed from khaki energy. Instead, he used the most direct way and welcomed them with both his fists.

'Whoosh! Whoosh!'

As he punched both his fists out with all his might, two waves of khaki energy with green energy and purple lightning entwined in it swept toward the wooden figures. In between, there were waves of sharp aura that came from the Sword Concept.

'Bang!!' A loud 'bang' exploded and echoed clearly in the narrow corridor.

'Victory favors the bold!'

In the meantime, the energy that was flowing out of Duan Ling Tian's fists swept toward the three wooden figures without any reservation. The attack to destroy the three wooden figures was earth shaking.

The three wooden figures' attacks were suppressed entirely by the energy. It smashed the three wooden figures into powder, and they vanished from this world completely.

'Bang! Bang! Bang! Bang!'

• • •

As the last three wooden figures were smashed into powder, gusts of deafening air explosions resounded. The entire Qing Feng Palace seemed to shake as though the earth was falling apart.

'Hoo! Hoo! Hoo! Hoo!'

...

The air current that was rolling in from all directions created gusts of maniacal wind that lifted the broken wood pieces in the corridor. A shower of broken wooden fell, and this time it lasted longer than before.

A purple silhouette stood at the end of the corridor as the purple robe on him billowed in the wind.

It was a purple-clad young man who stood with a cold stare like an undefeated God of War!

"The bronze key!" Duan Ling Tian's eyes landed on a stone platform outside the corridor in an instant. The stone platform stood there alone, looking rather pathetic.

Just like the stone platform, a solitary bronze key lay on the stone platform.

The bronze key was crescent-shaped, and the material used to refine it was unknown. It was completely different from the average keys.

Time did not seem to have left its mark on the keys.

"The third level... Do I go up from here?" Duan Ling Tian looked above the platform at the same time.

The ceiling was similar to the one he saw in the One-in-Four Room on Qing Feng Palace's first level earlier. It was not sealed and could clearly be moved.

'How come it's not opened yet? Could it be that the ceiling would only open the path to Qing Feng Palace's third floor after I take the bronze key away?'

As that thought popped into Duan Ling Tian's mind, he did not delay any further and flew like a goshawk as he landed stably on the stone platform.

He grabbed the bronze key with a casual lift of his arm.

"It's not opened yet?" Duan Ling Tian lifted his head to look at the ceiling. However, he realized nothing was happening to the ceiling. Instead, the stone platform beneath his feet began to tremble.

"What's this?" Duan Ling Tian's eyes narrowed as he looked at the stone platform beneath his feet in shock.

At this moment, he realized that an Inscription Formation was activated in the stone platform under his feet. Apart from that, there was an odd energy coming out of the Inscription Formation that swept toward the corridor he came from.

'Whoosh!'

Right at this moment, Duan Ling Tian felt as though he was stepping on air. He was surprised to see the stone platform moved after it detached from the ground. As soon as it detached under his feet, it floated to the corridor he came from and hovered there.

"What..."

Soon after, Duan Ling Tian saw the hundreds of thousands of broken wood pieces in the corridor began to fly as though they were being summoned by something. They flew toward the stone platform that was hovering in midair at an alarming rate.

Chapter 993: A Crazy Idea

The stone platform was not that big, it was surrounded by hundreds and thousands of broken wood pieces in just a blink of an eye. The broken wood pieces kept rolling and eventually they took the form of a figurine. A brand new giant wooden figure was formed.

"What's that Inscription Formation?" Duan Ling Tian's eyes narrowed when he witnessed the scene. He was in shock.

He could clearly sense it from the Spiritual Energy he had extended just a moment ago.

Along the stone platform, there was an Inscription Formation inside that exuded an odd energy. The hundreds and thousands of broken wood pieces piled up in the corridor were triggered for seemingly no reason.

When the stone platform approached them, the hundreds of thousands of broken wood pieces rushed toward the stone platform as if they were summoned by something before they transformed into a giant wooden figure.

This wooden figure consisted of hundreds and thousands of broken wood pieces. Although the surface of its body was uneven, it did not hide the vast and imposing aura it exuded.

"There aren't any Origin Stones inside the platform, only a piece of Concept Fragment... These broken wood pieces originated from the previous wooden figures so it retained some Origin Energy from the mid-grade Origin Stone in the wooden figures' bodies."

"And now, these meager and extremely weak Origin Energies in the broken wood pieces are entering the stone platform as though they were led by something... Eh? It's that Inscription Formation again!" Duan Ling Tian, who was extremely confused earlier, suddenly realized something. The Inscription Formation on the strange stone platform created an extremely formidable suction force. All traces of Origin Energies on the hundreds and thousands of broken wood pieces were absorbed by it.

Moments later, the Origin Energies in the hundreds and thousands of broken wood pieces were completely absorbed by the stone platform. The stone platform seemed to have become the heart of the giant wooden figure as it continued to grow stronger.

Boom!

Without knowing when, Duan Ling Tian's extended Spiritual Energy detected the Origin Energies, that were absorbed and accumulated by the stone platform, trembling suddenly before erupting completely.

In an instant, milky-white flames that seemed as though they could incinerate everything surged out from the giant wooden figure that was formed by hundreds and thousands of broken wood pieces!

Heaven and Earth Energy stirred and formed a Heaven and Earth Phenomenon above the wooden figure.

Four hundred ancient horned dragons' silhouettes appeared clearly before Duan Ling Tian's eyes.

"Just with the Origin Energy alone, it triggered the Heaven and Earth Energy and formed such a Heaven and Earth Phenomenon... It's equivalent to a Third Level Void Transformation martial artist exerting the strength of their Origin Energy!"

Duan Ling Tian's eyes narrowed slightly when he witnessed the scene before him.

As far as he knew, an Inscription Formation formed from midgrade Origin Stones, no matter how many there were, could only utilize Origin Energy equivalent to a Seventh Level Void Interpretation martial artist at the most. That would amount to a hundred ancient horned dragons' strength.

However, the giant wooden figure that did not have any Origin Stone in its body could exert Origin Energy that was equivalent to a Third Level Void Transformation martial artist. Duan Ling Tian felt shocked from the bottom of his heart.

In his opinion, this was ridiculous!

"The Origin Energy in the giant wooden figure came from the broken wood pieces... The Origin Energies from the broken wood pieces originated from the mid-grade Origin Stone. As a result, even if all the Origin Energies in the broken wood pieces were combined together, it shouldn't be able to demonstrate such a strength!"

"After all, these Origin Energies came from a mid-grade Origin Stone! Mid-grade Origin Stone has a lot of limitations, so it's impossible to display such a strength through the Inscription Formation alone."

Something just did not add up for Duan Ling Tian regarding that.

Finally, he came to a conclusion.

"I think it must be the Inscription Formation inside this strange stone platform... This mysterious and unique Inscription Formation doesn't even exist in Rebirth Martial Emperor's memory!"

Duan Ling Tian took a deep breath as he ended his train of thoughts.

Although the Rebirth Martial Emperor's memory did not have any record of the Inscription Formation, he still managed to figure something out from the Rebirth Martial Emperor's knowledge of Inscription Formations.

The Inscription Formation inside the strange stone platform was truly amazing!

"To be able to combine the weak Origin Energies in the hundreds and thousands of broken wood pieces and gather it into such a powerful Origin Energy...This Inscription Formation's simply unbelievable!" Duan Ling Tian's eyes were tinged with fear.

Although he did not understand the Inscription Formation, he managed to derive an extremely crazy idea from the information he gathered from the Inscription Formation.

'If this kind of Inscription Formation can be used on human martial artists... Their Origin Energy would have a substantial increase if it allows human martial artists to take control of the Inscription Formation and absorb Origin Energy from other human martial artists! How scary would that be?' Duan Ling Tian felt chills from his heart, and his scalp tingled when he thought about that.

If this idea worked, the entire Cloud Continent would be shocked!

At that time, the belief that stronger powerhouses could not be defeated by a large number of weaker counterparts would be completely destroyed.

Through such an Inscription Formation, one hundred First Level Void Transformation martial artists' Origin Energies could be combined, accumulated and increased to its maximum at the Seventh Level Void Transformation.

A Fourth Level Void Transformation martial artist, who usually could easily kill a hundred First Level Void Transformation martial artists, would be easily defeated after the hundred First Level Void Transformation martial artists cooperated with the help from the Inscription Formation!

"If such an Inscription Formation works on human martial artists... I'll only need a hundred Ninth Level Void Transformation martial artists to combine their Origin Energies and increase it through the Inscription Formation to reach the level of a Martial

Monarch!"

"At that time, it's not impossible for a hundred Ninth Level Void Transformation martial artists to kill a Martial Monarch powerhouse!"

A crazy idea formed in Duan Ling Tian's mind and his mood was affected accordingly.

Looking at the current situation, although a hundred Ninth Level Void Transformation martial artists together sounded terrifying, it was nothing compared to the intimidation from a First Level Martial Monarch Stage powerhouse.

A First Level Martial Monarch Stage powerhouse could completely kill a hundred Ninth Level Void Transformation martial artists.

However, if the Inscription Formation inside the strange stone platform could be used on one of the Ninth Level Void Transformation martial artists, then he could combine, accumulate and increase their strength with the Origin Energies from the other ninety-nine Ninth Level Void Transformation martial artists.

At that time, the Origin Energy would be at the Third Level Martial Monarch Stage or even the Fourth Level Martial Monarch Stage. It would not be just a dream!

Such a strength was enough to instantly kill a First Level Martial Monarch powerhouse!

"There's strength in numbers... This is true on Earth! Even when I was at my peak as Earth's strongest Weapons Specialist, I would still die if I was surrounded by a hundred normal people throwing a hundred kitchen knives at me simultaneously."

Although he was known as Earth's strongest Weapons Specialist in his past life, it was impossible for him to block a hundred kitchen knives from all directions. "However, in Cloud Continent, strength in numbers only apply if the martial artists are similar in strength... The notion of the weak overcoming the strong was nothing but a big joke!"

"Just like how a First Level Martial Monarch powerhouse is fearless against hundreds and thousands of ordinary Void Transformation martial artists! Even if it's a hard fight, the ones who die are the hundreds and thousands of ordinary Void Transformation martial artists and not the First Level Martial Monarch powerhouse." Duan Ling Tian sighed in his heart as his thoughts trailed.

In terms of a martial artist's cultivation in Cloud Continent, every level's improvement would bring a great leap in strength.

Trying to win a fight by sheer number and for the weak to overpower a stronger opponent was harder than going to heaven!

"But if this kind of Inscription Formation can be used on human martial artists... It's not impossible for hundreds and thousands of ordinary Void Transformation martial artists to join hands and kill a Martial Monarch powerhouse." Duan Ling Tian's eyes flashed and flames of raw desire arose.

Shou!

Suddenly, a swift and violent wind whistling sound reverberated. It instantly woke Duan Ling Tian up.

When Duan Ling Tian finally reacted, a giant fist was already in front of his eyes.

He did not have time to completely defend himself, he could only hurriedly utilize as much force as he could to defend himself.

Boom!

The result was obvious. Although Duan Ling Tian, who was unprepared, managed to utilize several hundreds of ancient horned dragons' strength in a hurry, he was still crushed by the power contained in that huge fist.

After the formidable force suppressed Duan Ling Tian, it landed on Duan Ling Tian's body. It pushed him off like a rotten stump and unrelentingly smashed at him until he flew away.

"Wa!!!"

Duan Ling Tian, who was smashed, felt his internal organs trembled and something rising in his throat. He then involuntarily spat out a mouthful of blood, his face turned ashen immediately.

At the same time, his body flew out uncontrollably like a shooting arrow.

He did not slow down until he struggled and used his Origin Energy.

Boom!

Even so, he still slammed into one side of the wall in Qing Feng Palace's second level. Once again, his internal organ trembled violently due to the impact, and his vital energy and blood constantly churned in his body.

"Wa! Wa!" Duan Ling Tian spat out another two mouthfuls of blood as the Origin Energy in his body stirred uncontrollably.

Boom! Boom! Boom! Boom!

• • •

Simultaneously, air explosion sounds caused by compressed air flow spread to Duan Ling Tian's direction in a timely manner. Moreover, gusts of fierce wind that was blowing in all directions accompanied it.

Shou!

As the fierce wind hit, a piercing wind whistling sound headed toward Duan Ling Tian as though it would not rest until Duan Ling Tian was killed.

The giant fist appeared again, and the giant wooden figure attacked unrelentingly.

Pang!!!

Duan Ling Tian's face changed, and the Quasi Royal Grade Spirit Sword materialized in his hands. With a backhand, he slashed the wall behind him with the blade of his sword and hurriedly exerted his force.

In that instant, the impact pushed Duan Ling Tian away, and he narrowly escaped the giant wooden figure's punch.

Boom!!!

The giant wooden figure's fist, that almost connected with Duan Ling Tian's body, roughly slammed on the wall and resulted in a loud bang that sounded like an exploding mine.

Chapter 994: The Third Level

At this moment, the sturdiness of Qing Feng Palace's wall became apparent!

The giant wooden figure's punch contained more than a thousand ancient horned dragons' strength. Although it roughly slammed on the wall, not only did it fail to penetrate the wall, it did not even put a dent in the wall.

Qing Feng Palace's walls were obviously constructed with special materials since it was extremely sturdy.

"Seventh Level Advanced Wind Concept?"

Duan Ling Tian relied on the impact and managed to escape the giant wooden figure's punch, his heart jolted and gallbladder trembled. When he saw the Heaven and Earth Phenomenon in the space above the giant wooden figure, he could not help but stare.

1200 ancient horned dragons' silhouettes!

The giant wooden figure, with its Origin Energy fully exerted, had a strength that was equivalent to four hundred ancient horned dragons' strength.

After it combined Wind Concept with its Origin Energy and transformed into gusts of green wind that entwined around its body, it displayed the strength of 1200 ancient horned dragons' strength.

That meant its Wind Concept was equivalent to eight hundred ancient horned dragons' strength!

It was a Seventh Level Advanced Wind Concept!

Duan Ling Tian retrieved one of the Life Recovery Pill he had refined and ate it. The Life Recovery Pill with high purity healed most of his injuries in just a blink of an eye.

Although there were still some injuries on Duan Ling Tian's

body, there was no pressure at all since he could crush the giant wooden figure with his full strength.

Nine Dragons' Radiant Flash!

There was a hint of coldness on the corner of Duan Ling Tian's mouth when he faced the giant wooden figure that was charging toward him again. He lifted the Quasi Royal Grade Spirit Sword in his hands and slashed out suddenly.

Immediately, Origin Energy that was combined with four types of Concepts transformed into three divine dragons that shot forward. The three divine dragons' eyes flashed, six extremely radiant lights shot out and left six holes on the giant wooden figure's body.

Shou!

However, the giant wooden figure was not human. Even with six holes on its body, it was still as fierce. It continued to charge toward Duan Ling Tian.

"Almost forgot about it... It's just a wooden figure, obviously, it doesn't have any vital organs."

Duan Ling Tian, who had mistaken the wooden figure for a human, could not help but smile bitterly. Instead of using Nine Dragons' Radiant Flash again, he flew out and faced the giant wooden figure.

Xiu! Xiu! Xiu! Xiu! Xiu!

• • •

A series of sword whistling noise like rainstorm rang out from nowhere.

The Quasi Royal Grade Spirit Sword in Duan Ling Tian's hands struck out like lightning and broke the giant wooden figure into numerous pieces in just a blink of an eye.

For a period of time, the strange stone platform hovered

solitarily in mid-air.

Hua!

At this moment, Duan Ling Tian's Spiritual Energy that was on guard all along trembled slightly. He immediately figured out the Inscription Formation inside the strange stone platform was being triggered again. It intended to pull the wood pieces all over the ground together again.

It was apparent that it was trying to form another giant wooden figure and attack him again.

'Heng!'

Duan Ling Tian had already learned from his mistake, naturally, he would not let it succeed again. As he lifted his arm, a vast energy shrouded the stone monument.

Pang!!!

A loud bang echoed as the stone monument trembled. Although it did not break, the energy extended by the Inscription Formation slowed down a little.

Duan Ling Tian seized the opportunity and quickly kept the stone platform in his Spatial Ring.

After the stone platform was kept in the Spatial Ring, the rising pieces of wood fell back on the ground. Calmness was instantly restored at the scene.

"I'll keep the stone platform first... I'll study it when I have time." Duan Ling Tian decided.

'If that Inscription Formation can really be used on human martial artists, thus allowing a fight to be won by numbers; for the weak to overpower the strong... Maybe I might consider amassing a force!' Duan Ling Tian thought silently in his heart. As his thoughts trailed, there was a gleam in his eyes that were filled with expectations.

At this moment, Duan Ling Tian seemed to be imagining hundreds and thousands of Void Transformation martial artists led by him traveling all over the place, and even a Martial Monarch powerhouse had to avoid them.

Just thinking of a scene like that made his blood boil!

Rumble!

Rumble! Rumble!

. . .

Several moments after Duan Ling Tian kept that strange stone platform, a burst of loud noises sounded and entered his ears clearly.

Simultaneously, the ceiling above him opened up, and a passageway headed to Qing Feng Palace's third level appeared before his eyes.

"The two other corridors are silent... It seems that the both of them didn't make it."

When Duan Ling Tian stepped on air to leave the second level of Qing Feng Palace, he purposely glanced at two other corridors, excluding the one he came from.

It was silent, and no movement could be heard.

It was obvious the two young powerhouses did not possess the ability to break through the corridor filled with wooden figures.

"Earlier, I was worried someone might get ahead of me, obtain the copper key and get the chance to move on to Qing Feng Palace's third level... Now that I think about it, I was worrying needlessly," Duan Ling Tian muttered as he looked at the crescent-shaped copper key in his hands. There was a hint of surprise in his voice.

Shortly after, he left the second level of Qing Feng Palace and appeared on the third level.

Rumble!

Rumble! Rumble!

...

As Duan Ling Tian arrived at Qing Feng Palace's third level, loud noises were heard from the ceiling of the second level again. The passageway closed as though it was trying to prevent someone else from coming up.

"Young one, congratulations on your arrival to Qing Feng Palace's third level...Once you passed the third level's test, you'll get a silver key."

When Duan Ling Tian realized he had triggered another Polyphony Formation, Martial Emperor Qing Feng's voice had already entered his ears in a timely manner.

"Silver key?"

When Duan Ling Tian heard Martial Emperor Qing Feng's statement, the corner of his mouth twitched. "First, it was a copper key, now it's a silver key... I wonder if there's a golden key?"

However, Duan Ling Tian knew that he did not have any other options right now, he would have to do as Martial Emperor Qing Feng said unless he did not want the three Profundity Fragment inside Martial Emperor Qing Feng's body.

When Duan Ling Tian was breaking through the Qing Feng Palace one level at a time, the others scattered around Qing Feng Palace were faced with the same situation. Naturally, most of them were eliminated in the first, second and even third level of Qing Feng Palace.

The test on the third level was undoubtedly much more difficult than the test on the second level.

In addition to breaking through the necessary test, they had to fight at the cost of their lives. Only those who remained would obtain the silver key and successfully move on. The third level of Qing Feng Palace, inside one of the spacious hall.

Three figures stood separately in a corner, facing off against each other. The smell of gunpowder was unusually strong as though they were ready to attack at any moment.

Among them was an extremely beautiful young woman.

A red-clad young woman who was drop-dead gorgeous. She looked remarkably like a fire elf.

Suddenly, one of the young men yelled, "Kill!"

The Origin Energy in his body skyrocketed, his Concept followed like a shadow and merged with the spirit weapon in his hands.

He first rushed in the red-clad woman's direction, the power of the spirit weapon in his hands was completely exerted.

In his opinion, among the three people there, including him, the weakest one would definitely be the red-clad woman who only looked around twenty years old. She would be the easiest to kill.

In order to fight the last person without any worries, he decided to first eliminate the red-clad woman.

Although he was entranced by the woman's beauty, he was not in the mood for it now.

"I'm determined to get the silver key!" The young man's eyes gleamed with malice while confidence filled his face.

In the meantime, Heaven and Earth Energy stirred in the space above him as they continued to form a Heaven and Earth Phenomenon. Approximately one thousand ancient horned dragons' silhouettes were formed.

Shou!

The other young man charged toward the red-clad woman at the same time as the former young man rushed there. It seemed as though they had planned this beforehand.

At the space above him, there were also approximately a thousand ancient horned dragons' silhouettes lunging toward the woman with great momentum.

Hu!

Faced with both their attacks, the woman stood firmly. She remained unmoving as her clothes fluttered.

There was no wind in here, the woman's red robe was fluttering from the airwave and fierce wind due to the air explosion caused by the two young men's attacks.

"Die!" Both of them were from Izumo Sect and North Nether Sect respectively. The Izumo Sect's disciple who attacked later looked at the red-clad woman ferociously, and there was malice in his gaze.

Out of everyone who had entered the Martial Emperor's secret treasure with him, only him and another person were left.

The two strongest young powerhouse from the younger generation of Izumo Sect were killed by the same person.

The killer was none other than Duan Ling Tian!

A young powerhouse from a mere third-rate force had frightened him to the bottom of his heart.

He knew this red-clad woman in front of him was close to Duan Ling Tian before they entered Qing Feng Palace. This was one of the reasons he attacked her.

The red-clad girl was Feng Tian Wu!

Ever since Feng Tian Wu split up with Duan Ling Tian, she had managed to pass the tests from the first level of Qing Feng Palace to the third level.

After she passed the test, Martial Emperor Qing Feng's voice entered her ears clearly.

She found out the third level of Qing Feng Palace required two persons' lives and blood sacrifice to open the entrance to the fourth level.

Faced with both attacks, one on the left and the other on the right, Feng Tian Wu's face remained calm as though she could keep a straight face even if Mount Tai collapsed before her.

Feng Tian Wu did not make any move until the two of them arrived near her.

Boom!

There was a raising flame on Feng Tian Wu's body that stirred the Heaven and Earth Energy in the space above her. Finally, it formed the Heaven and Earth Phenomenon.

A thousand ancient horned dragons' silhouettes descended slowly, and they looked lifelike.

"Ninth...Ninth Level Advanced Fire Concept?!"

When the two young men saw the Heaven and Earth Phenomenon above Feng Tian Wu, the faces of both persons, who was rapidly charging toward her with the intention to kill, changed dramatically.

Chapter 995: Continue! The Fourth Level!

Whether it was the North Nether Sect's disciple or the Izumo Sect's disciple, both of them could see the scene before their eyes very clearly.

The red-clad young girl, whom they had regarded as a pushover, did not use even an ounce of her Origin Energy from the very beginning.

Even without using her Origin Energy, just by communicating and mobilizing her Fire Concept to activate the Heaven and Earth Energy was enough to gather one thousand silhouettes of ancient horned dragons.

In other words, Feng Tian Wu's Fire Concept would definitely have the strength of more than one thousand ancient horned dragons once it was cast.

This also meant the Fire Concept that could unleash the strength of one thousand ancient horned dragons was none other than the Ninth Level Advance Fire Concept!

Whoosh! Whoosh!

After discovering the level of Fire Concept that Feng Tian Wu had comprehended, colors drained from the faces of the North Nether Sect and Izumo Sect's disciples as horror dawned on their faces immediately.

The two of them were in the midst of charging toward Feng Tian Wu, and they immediately slowed their speed down. They looked at each other tacitly, and both of them could see the inexplicable terror in each other's eyes.

Flee!

Within seconds, the two men came to a halt simultaneously in front of Feng Tian Wu and hastily turned around, ready to flee.

In their opinion, since Feng Tian Wu had comprehended the Ninth Level Advance Fire Concept, her cultivation base must be pretty good as well.

Ninth Level Void Transformation Concept!

Even the strongest person among the current younger generations in Izumo Sect and North Nether Sect did not have such a high comprehension of Void Transformation Concept.

For this reason, Feng Tian Wu, in their opinion, was even more terrifying than the strongest person among the current younger generation in their respective sect.

Just as the two of them turned around and was about to flee, Feng Tian Wu made her move.

The red and long whip lashed out like a red lightning and bit their skin like a poisonous snake.

Swish!

The long whip tore through the sky and set off a series of swift wind whistling sound.

Ear-piercing wind whistling sound entered the eyes (T/N: isn't it supposed to be ears instead?) of the Izumo Sect and North Nether Sect's disciples and made them tremble for a second. Horror dawned on their faces as they hurriedly fled.

Unfortunately, they were still too slow.

Whoosh! Whoosh!

The long whip that was like a red poisonous snake lashed out rapidly and penetrated the Izumo Sect and North Nether Sect disciples' bodies. In just a twinkle of an eye, they were killed one by one.

The two of them did not even have the chance to raise their speed to flee before they died from the long whip in Feng Tian Wu's hands in mere seconds.

Boom! Boom!

As the two bodies fell on the floor, the long whip that was wriggling like a red spirit snake in Feng Tian Wu's hands disappeared from her hands without a trace.

Meanwhile, the raging flame that was burning on her body dissipated, and the 1100 silhouettes of ancient horned dragons that finally appeared above her head also slowly dissipated into nothingness.

If the North Nether Sect and Izumo Sect's disciples who had just passed away saw this scene, they would definitely regret running away from Feng Tian Wu in the last moment when they were still alive.

Had they known earlier that Feng Tian Wu's full strength was only over 1100 ancient horned dragons, they would not have fled in the first place.

They only fled because they reasoned that since Feng Tian Wu had a comprehension at the Ninth Level Advance Fire Concept, her cultivation base must have also made a breakthrough to the Void Transformation.

Had they known earlier that she was only a Fourth Level Void Interpretation martial artist, they would not fear her Ninth Level Advance Fire Concept to the point that they had to flee.

Although Feng Tian Wu had the strength of over 1100 ancient horned dragons and was still slightly stronger than them, they would probably be willing to try their luck and fight her because the gap between Feng Tian Wu's strength and theirs was not too huge, and there might be a sliver of hope in defeating her.

They chose to flee because they thought there was no hope.

"Looks like my Fire Concept can be used to scare the others," Feng Tian Wu muttered as she looked at the two bodies on the ground. The stunning and delicate face did not seem happy nor enraged, no emotions could be seen on her face at all.

If the two of them had tried to battle it out with her earlier, it would still take some effort even if she would eventually kill them.

However, when the other party saw the Ninth Level Advance Fire Concept she mobilized and demonstrated, they immediately dismissed the thought of fighting and decided to flee hastily instead. That gave her the opportunity to give chase and kill them off easily.

It could be said the reason the two of them died so fast was due to their cowardice.

"Huh?" Feng Tian Wu suddenly expressed her surprise as though she had discovered something.

In the next moment, she saw the blood that oozed out from the two bodies and had formed a stream of fresh blood, seemed to have triggered something. It resulted in waves of aura from the Inscription Formation to rise from the surrounding.

Blood sacrifice!

Feng Tian Wu immediately figured out what was happening when she recalled the message left behind by Martial Emperor Qing Feng.

Rumble!

Rumble! Rumble!

• • •

In the next second, a series of loud noise that came from above her head reverberated by Feng Tian Wu's ears.

Feng Tian Wu was curious and immediately looked up. With just a glance, she saw the ceiling above her head began to move and open, revealing a path that led to the fourth level of Qing Feng Palace that welcomed her.

"Where's the silver key?" Feng Tian Wu was not surprised by the

scene before her eyes. Immediately, her thoughts shifted to the reward Martial Emperor Qing Feng left behind at the third level of Qing Feng Palace.

According to Martial Emperor Qin Feng, the reward for the third level was a silver key.

As for what the silver key was for, she had no idea at all.

Naturally, although she had no idea what the silver key was for, she could faintly guess the significance it represented. Otherwise, it would not be placed at the third level of Qing Feng Palace by Martial Emperor Qing Feng as the reward for passing the test.

However, now that the door to the fourth level of the Qing Feng Palace was opened, the silver key that was the reward of Qing Feng Palace's third level had yet to appear. This made her incredibly impatient.

Rumble!

At this moment, another light rumble resonated by Feng Tian Wu's ears.

In the next second, she saw a blue brick nearby on the floor that was illuminated by the light shining down from the fourth level of the Qing Feng Palace, it suddenly quivered violently before rising up from the ground.

Whoosh!

With a lift of her hand, Feng Tian Wu took the brick.

A simple and unsophisticated small box appeared before her eyes.

Crack!

The moment Feng Tian Wu took hold of the little box, she opened it right away. The item contained in the little box entered her sight, and her eyes lit up. A meaningful smile crept up on her face instantly.

There was a crescent-shaped key lying quietly in the box that she

opened.

"The shape's exactly the same except for the color." At the same time, Feng Tian Wu took out another crescent-shaped copper key, it contrasted sharply with the silver key in the box.

"The fourth level!" The moment Feng Tian Wu got her hands on the silver key, she did not waste any more time idling at the third level of the Qing Feng Palace. Soaring up into the sky, she landed firmly on the fourth level of Qing Feng Palace.

As Feng Tian Wu climbed up to the fourth level of Qing Feng Palace, many people similarly passed the test at the third level and activated the entrance that led to the fourth level as well.

"This is the silver key? It looks exactly the same with the copper key!" Peng Bao's eyes lit up when he looked at the crescent-shaped key in his hand.

Apart from Peng Bao, there were many other people who had also obtained their own silver key and successfully ascended to the fourth level of Qing Feng Palace as well.

Each and every one of them was at a different place.

As they continued to climb up, the distance between them gradually became smaller and smaller.

At the first level of Qing Feng Palace, it was one out of four. It meant that only one out of four people would be able to climb up to the second level of Qing Feng Palace.

In the second level of Qing Feng Palace, it was one out of three.

In the third level of Qing Feng Palace, it was one out of three.

Based on this, among the group of people who entered Qing Feng Palace, only one out of eight people could successfully move on to the fourth level.

Those who stepped on to the fourth level would have to eliminate the other seven people. "What's there at the fourth level?" After Duan Ling Tian had obtained the silver key, he left the third level of Qing Feng Palace that had two bodies lying on the ground and successfully climbed up to the fourth level.

He still found it peculiar when he thought about the experience he went through at the third level.

This was because the test he had gone through at Qing Feng Palace's third level was much easier compared to the test he went through at the second level.

The strongest puppet he came across at the third level had a strength of one thousand ancient horned dragons once it was fully unleashed.

It was much weaker compared to the giant wooden puppet that he encountered at the second level of Qing Feng Palace.

"Perhaps, the test at the third level is easier than the one in the second level because I still need to kill another two young powerhouses to use their lives as a blood sacrifice and open the entrance that leads to the fourth level." The more Duan Ling Tian thought about it, the more certain he became.

"Congratulations, young man... If you pass the test in the fourth level of Qing Feng Palace, you'll be able to obtain the golden key and another reward as well!" Martial Emperor Qing Feng's voice entered Duan Ling Tian's ears once again through Polyphony Formation.

"Just like I thought! There's a golden key after all! If I can get my hands on it, it means I've successfully gathered all three keys of gold, silver, and copper. Could it be that these three keys are used to unlock something?" Duan Ling Tian muttered to himself as he speculated.

Soon after, the test on the fourth level of Qing Feng Palace began.

The test on this level was not fighting some sculptures, wooden

figures or puppets. Instead, one had to go head-to-head with the endless Nature Energy in the long corridor.

The Nature Energy included Wind, Fire, Water, Thunder, and Earth Energy.

At this moment, the energy swept through the offensive Inscription Formation and obstructed Duan Ling Tian from moving forward. It would not allow him to pass through easily.

Boom! Boom! Boom! Boom!

• • •

Duan Ling Tian ran as his Origin Energy soared from his body with four types of Concepts following closely behind. From the very beginning to the end, his hands did not idle at all.

Punches and palms thrust out and pushed back the gusts of Nature Energy that rushed toward him like a fierce flood and savage beasts.

The strongest among these Nature Energy only had the Ninth Level Concept Fragments in the Inscription Formation, it was about the strength of one thousand ancient horned dragons.

Originally, the energy was nothing to Duan Ling Tian, but the Nature Energy filled up almost the entire long corridor. Although it was just a matter of time before he eventually passed through, there was no doubt it was a waste of time.

Chapter 996: Xu Qing! Zuo Yue!

"The test at the fourth level of Qing Feng Palace is called the Bumpy Road... The one who manages to clear the Bumpy Road in the shortest time will stand a chance of obtaining the golden key! As long as you make it through the Bumpy Road, you'll still have a chance to obtain the other rewards I left behind even if you don't get the golden key." TheseThis werewas the original words of Martial Emperor Qing Feng in the message he left behind using the Polyphony Formation.

Due to this reason, what Duan Ling Tian had to do now was to go through the Bumpy Road to reach the other side and get his hands on the golden key as well as the other rewards.

"Judging from the message left behind by Martial Emperor Qing Feng, it looks like this time, somebody else is also competing with me this time. It's similar to when I was in the first, second and third levels of Qing Feng Palace!" The moment Duan Ling Tian thought of this, his hands' movements immediately sped up and extended at lightning speedcharged out as fast as lightning.

The pPunches and palms that contained all his energy swept out and opened the path ahead, smashing away all the obstacles without any reservations.

When Duan Ling Tian used thismade his move, apart from igniting a series of ear-piercing wind-whistling sounds, it was also accompanied by a deafening burst of adeafening thunder-like sound.

Boom! Boom! Boom! Boom!

• • •

The sound of explosions continued to be heardset off in succession, and they it generated fluctuations in theof airwaves that swept out in everyall directions to and to createds everl flurries countless pervasive and tyrannical of hurricanes that were pervasive and tyrannical.

The wind continued to blow as punches were thrown out!

Bam!

Duan Ling Tian's punches were overwhelming. Although the stormy waves that were rushing toward him contained the strength of 1,000 ancient horned dragons, his punch was so hard that it sailed upstream against the current and set off a series of loud noises.

The stormy waves were the Water Energy transformed by the Water Concept through the Inscription Formation. As Duan Ling Tian punched the waves upstream, he began to fly out nimbly.

Whirlwind!

Within seconds, Duan Ling Tian passed through this stormy wave and was making his way toward the other end of this long corridor.

Whoosh!

This time around, a tyrannical soaring flame was charging toward him. When the flame enveloped Duan Ling Tian, it was similar to a gigantic fiery behemoth that opened its mouth wide to swallow Duan Ling Tian up whole.

Faced with the overbearing flame that encompassed the entire sky and earth, Duan Ling Tian's eyes turned cold. Once again, he punched out and temporarily suppressed the encompassing flame, making it difficult for it to surge again for the time being.

Whoosh!

A purple figure that was as swift as a lightning once again charged out to the front just in time to face the next wave of rolling Earth Energy.

As the Earth Energy charged toward Duan Ling Tian and

enveloped him, it perfectly merged and became one with the entire Earth. There was no distinction between one and the other.

"Damn it!" At the same time, Duan Ling Tian's keen Spiritual Energy immediately noticed this subtle change, and horror dawned on his face instantly.

"It's not only able to solidify the Earth Energy, the Ninth Level Earth Concept Fragment in the Inscription Formation can also communicate with the Earth and borrow another wave of Earth Energy?!" Duan Ling Tian was taken aback. When the soaring Earth Energy was shrouding him, he could clearly see the Heaven and Earth Energy above the sky whirling and gathering into the Heaven and Earth Phenomenon with the strength of 1,500 ancient horned dragons in an overbearing manner. It was as though it was about to crush him completely!

"Hurmph!" When Duan Ling Tian saw this, his gaze turned cold, and the Quasi Royal Grade Spirit Sword appeared in his hand out of thin air. His sword slashed out as he pounced forward.

Whoosh!

At the place where the sword ray briefly pierced through, the Heaven and Earth Energy was cut into halves. Duan Ling Tian seized this opportunity to charge out and fly through the Earth Energy.

Whirlwind!

Duan Ling Tian continued rushing through his journey. When he came across any form of Earth Energy, he would use the Quasi Royal Grade Spirit Sword in his hands to clear his path.

Sometimes, he used his punches and palms so it was faster and easier!

After all, not every Nature Energy were like the Earth Energy that could easily be cleared by cutting them into halves, particularly the Water and Fire Energy. Although they were slashed apart by the sword ray, the cracks that were made by the slash did not allow Duan Ling Tian to pass through it entirely. This was because the Water and Fire Energy would merge into one immediately after if were slashed by the sword ray.

As for the Earth Energy that he slashed open, it was similar to a heavy boulder that was slashed apart. For this reason, it would be sliced into halves and fall to the sides when Duan Ling Tian slashed it, opening a path for him instantly.

Boom! Boom! Boom! Boom!

...

Throughout his journey, Duan Ling Tian dashed around madly and charged toward the other side of the long corridor.

The place where he passed by was filled with his fist and palm prints. At the same time, a series of thunderous explosions were set off in succession as well.

Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh!

• • •

When Duan Ling Tian encountered the Earth Energy, he immediately took out his Quasi Royal Grade Spirit Sword to open up the pathway. Whenever the sword ray was pointed forward, the Earth Energy would instantly be slashed into halves.

"Just a little bit more!" Eventually, Duan Ling Tian who forcefully charged forward could clearly see the end of the long corridor.

As long as he could reach it, he would be considered to have successfully cleared the Bumpy Road and passed the test of the fourth level in Qing Feng Palace. He would then be able to get his hands on the golden key.

"With my current speed, I'm sure nobody else competing with me can be faster than I am!" Duan Ling Tian was very confident in his own strength.

Finally, with the aid of his powerful strength, Duan Ling Tian managed to successfully clear the Bumpy Road and pass the test at the fourth level of Qing Feng Palace after he arrived at the end of the long corridor.

Whoosh!

After Duan Ling Tian had passed through the long corridor, he suddenly came to a halt without warning as the purple robe on his body gracefully fluttered in the wind.

Almost exactly at the same time when Duan Ling Tian came to a halt, another two swift whistling sounds resonated in the wind. Two figures stood in the distance and revealed their true identities.

"Oh?" Duan Ling Tian was extremely surprised by the fact that somebody else arrived here as fast as he did. He could not suppress his curiosity as he narrowed his eyes at them.

In just a glance, he immediately recognized the two people.

Xu Qing and Zuo Yue!

The two of them were the second-rate forces' young powerhouses from the northern desert.

Xu Qing was the strongest person among the current younger generation in North Nether Sect, and Zuo Yue was the strongest person among the current younger generation in Anicca Sect.

The moment Duan Ling Tian identified the two of them, a light immediately flashed across his eyes. "I can't believe I encountered them here. And here I thought I'll only encounter them at the fifth level."

Whether it was Xu Qing or Zuo Yue, they were both no match for him if they did not use their spirit weapons. However, once they used their spirit weapons, it did not matter if it was Xu Qing or Zuo Yue, both of their strengths would surpass his. If he was not mistaken, their strengths were almost twenty ancient horned dragons stronger than his!

Among the current young generation in the northern desert, Xu Qing and Zuo Yue shared the same fame as Lei Zhong, the Izumo Sect's disciple whom he had killed previously.

Both of their strengths had to be more or less on par with Lei Zhong's.

Fourth Level Void Transformation with a comprehension of the Fourth Level Void Transformation Concept.

Without any spirit weapon, they could unleash the strength of 1100 ancient horned dragons! Once they used their grade one spirit weapon, they would have a 87-88% boost based on their Fourth Level Void Transformations' Origin Energies that was equivalent to the strength of over 520 ancient horned dragons. The two of them added together would equal to the strength of over 1620 ancient horned dragons!

"Duan Ling Tian!" When Duan Ling Tian saw Xu Qing and Zuo Yue, the two of them noticed him as well.

A look of astonishment crept up on their faces. It did not cross their minds that they would encounter him here.

Hints of dread could be seen in their eyes when they looked at him.

They had both witnessed Duan Ling Tian's strength previously. He had killed Lei Zhong who was as well-known as they were at the northern desert and possessed strength that was more or less on par with them.

At this moment, they were not sure if the Heaven and Earth Phenomenon Duan Ling Tian displayed previously — without his spirit weapon — after the mobilization of his Heaven and Earth Energy was cast unreservedly or not.

If there was still some reservations, Duan Ling Tian's strength

was definitely better than theirs.

However, Duan Ling Tian's strength was no match for theirs if that was the extent of his power.

Faced with the dreadful gazes from the two people, Duan Ling Tian remained unruffled. He could guess what they were thinking.

Although his face remained calm, he could not help but feel slightly nervous inside.

"My current strength is only about 1,600 ancient horned dragons even if I use all my strength and the Quasi Royal Grade Spirit Sword. Previously, it was entirely pure luck that I was able to kill Lei Zhong. It was all thanks to Lei Zhong for underestimating me too much and attacked me without using any spirit weapon. Due to this reason, I was able to take the lead and inflict great injuries on him! Even if he had used his grade one spirit weapon, it would still be hard for him to exert the full power he had at his peak due to his injuries. In the end, it's precisely because of his injuries that he died in my hands. If he was not injured in the first place, his strength would be over 20 ancient horned dragons stronger than mine. Although I was not afraid of him, it would still be extremely difficult for me to win against him." Duan Ling Tian's eyes shone brilliantly as he recalled his fight with Lei Zhong. He could not help but feel lucky.

It was mostly due to pure luck that he was able to annihilate Lei Zhong so swiftly and efficiently. Otherwise, the battle between him and Lei Zhong would most likely end in a draw. This was because he was not entirely confident in winning against Lei Zhong with his grade one spirit weapon at his peak.

"Whether it's Xu Qing or Zuo Yue, both have a strength that's on par with Lei Zhong. I'm not afraid if there's only one of them. However, I'll definitely lose if the two of them attack at the same time." Duan Ling Tian returned to his senses and gasped inwardly, a hint of dread filled his eyes. At this moment, he could only hope Xu Qing and Zuo Yue would not join forces with each other. Otherwise, he would definitely be in deep trouble!

"As the saying goes, it's always wiser to play it safe. I must think of a way to deal with this situation! It's very likely the two of them would join forces with each other." Duan Ling Tian inhaled deeply. His mind whirred quickly as he began to find a way.

However, he could not think of anything at all even after a while.

"What should I do?" Duan Ling Tian muttered and frowned. At the same time, his eyes began to dart and look around. He immediately noticed the other five long corridors by the side.

"There are a total of six long corridors in the fourth level of Qing Feng Palace, including the one I took. In other words, apart from Xu Qing, Zuo Yue, and I, another three people will arrive at the fourth level as well? However, they must not have cleared the test at the fourth level, the Bumpy Road. That Earth Energy contained the strength of 1,500 ancient horned dragons! Among the young powerhouses who entered the Martial Emperor's secret treasure, only Xu Qing, Zuo Yue, and I are able to deal with this test."

Chapter 997: Duan Ling Tian's Crisis

Soon after, Feng Tian Wu appeared in Duan Ling Tian's mind. "Naturally, Tian Wu can suppress the Earth Energy that contains the strength of 1,500 ancient horned dragons if she risks her life and cast the Fire Profundity. Even if she casts the First Level Fire Profundity that's at the lowest level, the strength's still equivalent to 2,000 ancient horned dragons!"

If Feng Tian Wu ignored the counterattack of from her Fire Spirit Body and risked her life to cast the First Level Fire Profundity, her strength would be equivalent to 2,000 ancient horned dragons!

However, if that was the case, the cost would be very great as well — she could explode and die from it.

The force from the Fire Spirit Body hidden in her body was not simple!

"The five young powerhouses who reach the fourth level of Qing Feng Palace, including Xu Qing and Zuo Yue, must have had the same experience as me. Judging from the number of young powerhouses from each sect that entered Qing Feng Palace, this place — the fourth level of Qing Feng Palace — surely leads to the fifth level. After all, the fifth level is the final level of Qing Feng Palace. If I'm not mistaken, the remains of Martial Emperor Qing Feng must be at the fifth level." When Duan Ling Tian thought of this, his eyes immediately gleamed brilliantly. They were filled with anticipation and desire.

The anticipation of discovering the body of Martial Emperor Qing Feng, and the desire to obtain the three Profundity Fragments in Martial Emperor Qing Feng's body, particularly that Emperor Stage Profundity Fragment that he yearned to possess even in his dreams!

When Duan Ling Tian was deep in his thoughts, Xu Qing and Zuo Yue exchanged glances tacitly. None of them moved for a very long

time as though they had discussed this beforehand.

Both of them could be considered as old rivals and were very familiar with each other.

At this moment, the fact that they simultaneously appeared at the fourth level of Qing Feng Palace took them by surprise.

"Xu Qing!" Zuo Yue called out unhurriedly with narrowed eyes. Battle intent filled his eyes as though he could not wait to battle it out with Xu Qing for at least 300 rounds to determine the winner.

In his opinion, he would become the most powerful person among the younger generation in the northern desert as long as he could defeat Xu Qing. This way, there was no need for him to share the limelight with Xu Qing again.

At this moment, Zuo Yue completely ignored Duan Ling Tian's existence.

"Zuo Yue." As a Sword Cultivator, Xu Qing was a lot calmer compared to Zuo Yue. Faced with the intense battle intent oozing out of Zuo Yue who was staring at him, Xu Qing ignored it completely and casually returned the stare.

Zuo Yue's face darkened, and he was about to launch his attack when he saw the nonchalance on Xu Qing's face. However, a voice entered his ears and shocked him like a bolt of lightning. It completely suppressed the anger that rose up from his heart.

"Zuo Yue, don't you think the match between you and I should be postponed until we kill Duan Ling Tian together?" The voice that entered Zuo Yue's ears was none other than Xu Qing's Voice Transmission.

"Currently, we're not sure if he held back any of the strength he displayed previously. However, whether he held back or not, we definitely can't allow him to live. If we fight each other, we'll both eventually end up greatly defeated and wounded. Do you really want him to be the fisherman who profits when the snipe and the

clam grapple? I suggest we join forces and kill him first." At this point in the Voice Transmission, Xu Qing's voice instantly became more solemn. "My gut feeling tells me Duan Ling Tian's not simple... I feel extremely uneasy with him alive."

After listening to Xu Qing's reminder, Zuo Yue was hit by a pang of realization. He was reminded of Duan Ling Tian's existence and instantly regained his senses.

He had almost forgotten about Duan Ling Tian earlier.

"You and I can join forces... but... the Profundity Fragment he has belongs to me!" Zuo Yue bargained as he looked at Xu Qing.

However, his words instantly elicited a mocking smile on Xu Qing's face. "Zuo Yue, have you forgotten the most important thing? Today, we'll have to fight and determine the winner between the both of us! When that time comes, one of us will be killed by the other person. The person who survives will then obtain the golden key and the other rewards left behind by Martial Emperor Qing Feng at the fourth level before continuing to ascend to the fifth level to obtain the three Profundity Fragments left in Martial Emperor Qing Feng's body. Since one of us will die, don't you think this condition of yours is a little unnecessary?" Xu Qing finished his words in one breath.

Xu Qing's words took Zuo Yue by surprise. He quickly regained his senses and agreed with Xu Qing's words.

"In that case, we'll join forces to kill Duan Ling Tian first!" Zuo Yue took a deep breath and stared coldly at the purple-clad young man standing nearby.

When he noticed Duan Ling Tian was looking around as though he was looking for something, a sneer immediately crept up on his face. He said cruelly, "Duan Ling Tian, take a good look at your surroundings. It's destined you won't be able to see anything else in the world after today!" When Zuo Yue's words entered Duan Ling Tian's ears, his face immediately darkened.

"Zuo Yue!" Although Duan Ling Tian was looking at Zuo Yue, he could clearly sense the indifference from Xu Qing who was staring at him from the side.

It was an extremely cold look that seemed as though he wanted to devour a certain somebody.

"They really joined forces?" His heart immediately jolted.

Although he was mentally prepared, his heart could not help but tighten when the moment arrived. His face immediately became solemn while a hint of dread gleamed in his eyes.

"Hahaha... Duan Ling Tian, it doesn't matter if you held back when you killed Lei Zhong. Today, Xu Qing and I will join forces, and you'll definitely die!" When Zuo Yue noticed the dread in Duan Ling Tian's eyes, he threw his head back, laughing maniacally. His laughter was wanton and unrestrained.

From what he could see, Duan Ling Tian had to have some knowledge of his and Xu Qing's strength. The moment Duan Ling Tian heard Xu Qing and him would be joining forces, the dread in Duan Ling Tian's eyes clearly showed he was not confident he would be able to defeat them both.

"Zuo Yue, I realized you really do spout a lot of nonsense!" Xu Qing spoke in a cold voice, it was as cold as the gaze that he focused on Duan Ling Tian. "Before we kill Duan Ling Tian, you better keep your guard up! Be careful not to fail in this easy task!"

"Xu Qing!" The instance Duan Ling Tian heard his intention to kill him, horror instantly dawned on his face as a cold killing intent shot out of his eyes.

This Xu Qing actually joined in with Zuo Yue's villainy?!

Although Duan Ling Tian was not willing to admit it, he had no other choice but to admit Xu Qing and Zuo Yue joining forces was the best method to deal with him. If the situation was reversed, and he was in Xu Qing's shoes, he would make the same decision as well — get rid of Duan Ling Tian first before deciding the victor with Zuo Yue in a deadly match.

The last person to survive would be the winner. Not only would he obtain the golden key and the other rewards, he would also ascend to the fifth level — the highest level of Qing Feng Palace — and obtain the three Profundity Fragments in Martial Emperor Qing Feng's body.

"Xu Qing, now!" At this moment, Zuo Yue, who was reminded by Xu Qing, suddenly shouted without warning and prompted Xu Qing to charge toward Duan Ling Tian.

It could be seen that Zuo Yue's movement was as swift as the wind!

In the midst of charging forward, he took out the grade one spirit weapon he had previously obtained from the outer ring of the Martial Emperor's secret treasure — a curved saber that looked extremely simple and old.

Swish!

Zuo Yue made a move and instantly exerted his full strength without any reservation!

Gusts of solidified blue wind chi swept out from his body and emanated a vast and tyrannical aura before it merged with the curved saber in his hand.

The saber ray on the curved saber immediately soared up and charged toward Duan Ling Tian mercilessly in an overbearing manner. It was as though it was about to cut him into halves.

The Heaven and Earth Energy whirred in the sky and finally gathered into a visible Heaven and Earth Phenomenon...

Over 1,620 silhouettes of ancient horned dragons pounced out together with Zuo Yue.

As the curved saber in Zuo Yue's hands slashed out to kill Duan Ling Tian, the 1,620 silhouettes of ancient horned dragons suddenly sped up and pounced toward him with their fangs and claws bared. It was as though they were about to tear him into pieces.

Fourth Level Void Transformation!

Fourth Level Advance Wind Concept!

Grade one spirit saber!

This was the full strength of Zuo Yue, the strongest person among the current younger generation in Anicca Sect!

As the strongest person among the current younger generation in Anicca Sect, Zuo Yue's strength naturally was not as simple as it appeared on the surface. Apart from his full strength, he managed to cultivate a set of heaven-ranked saber technique martial skills to an extraordinary level.

Shadow Glow Machete!

When the curved saber in Zuo Yue's hands slashed toward Duan Ling Tian and was inching closer to him, the soaring saber ray suddenly converged before it solidified and gathered by the side of the curved saber as it returned to its original nature.

The speed, on the other hand, suddenly accelerated.

Whoosh!

As a saber shadow glimmered across the sky, an ultimate saber ray swept out and charged mercilessly toward Duan Ling Tian's vital parts.

At this moment, the speed of the curved saber in Zuo Yue's hand was at least 50% faster than before. Duan Ling Tian and Xu Qing's could see the afterimage it left behind.

The power of the Shadow Glow Machete was fully displayed for all to see!

When Zuo Yue's figure flashed and charged toward him, Duan Ling Tian had already taken out his Quasi Royal Grade Spirit Sword. As his Origin Energy rose, it merged with the four Concepts that followed closely like shadows before it merged with the sword.

Swish! Swish! Swish!

• • •

Without warning, the sword ray soared up and created a series of sword slashing sound.

In just a blink of an eye, all that remained of Zuo Yue's saber was an afterimage that soon disappeared before his eyes.

"Shit!" Horror dawned on Duan Ling Tian. He hurriedly shut his eyes, his Spiritual Energy stretched out and wrapped around his body. He tried to use his Spiritual Energy to figure out the trajectory of Zuo Yue's saber.

When his Spiritual Energy finally figured out the trajectory of the curved saber, the Quasi Royal Grade Spirit Sword in his hand trembled and disappeared into thin air.

Sword Drawing Art!

Whoosh!

Along with the sound of swords that disappeared as soon as it appeared, an ultimate sword ray tore the sky open.

Clang!!

A shrill sound of metal clanging resonated in the air. It was none other than the Quasi Royal Grade Spirit Sword in Duan Ling Tian's hand that managed to block the overbearing curved saber in Zuo Yue's hands in time.

Swoosh!

Zuo Yue beat him to the punch first. With the strength of 1,620 ancient horned dragons that was contained in his saber, he

crushed Duan Ling Tian's sword that contained 1.600 ancient horned dragons without any difficulty...

Chapter 998: The Nine-Tribulation Sword Control Technique

'Bang!'

The curved saber in Zuo Yue's hand had a saber ray that was completely formed by green energy. It dashed toward Duan Ling Tian in an overbearing manner and made the energy on Duan Ling Tian's sword tremble.

'Bang! Bang! Bang! Bang!'

...

The saber ray that contained more than 1,620 ancient horned dragons' strength swept out ceaselessly. It was like the waves at the back were pushing at the waves in front as it suppressed Duan Ling Tian's sword that contained 1,600 ancient horned dragons' strength.

A wave of air explosion sounded, air currents and strong winds swept rampantly in every direction.

'Whoosh!'

Duan Ling Tian held the sword in his hand as staggered a few steps back from Zuo Yue's attack. The lifeblood in his body surged. He looked clumsy, and his face became pale.

If this happened on a normal day, there was a chance Duan Ling Tian could slightly block Zuo Yue's attack that contained twenty more ancient horned dragons' strength than his.

However, since Zuo Yue attacked first and got the upper hand, it was difficult for him to fight back.

The fact that Zuo Yue struck first and possessed twenty more ancient horned dragons' strength was why he could easily defeat him!

'Unfortunately... The interference from the Earth Formation in the Bumpy Road at Qing Feng Palace's fifth level prohibits me from using the Earth Concept to boost my Earth Energy. Otherwise, I wouldn't be stuck in such a difficult situation!'

The Earth Formation was the Inscription Formation that unleashed Earth Energy in the Bumpy Road and stopped Duan Ling Tian from moving forward.

Duan Ling Tian took a deep breath and felt his organs trembled, he did not look too good when he stared at Zuo Yue who made him staggered a few steps back. However, he did not attack.

"Haha... Duan Ling Tian, seems like my speculation's right. 1,600 ancient horned dragons' strength is your limit!" Zuo Yue returned Duan Ling Tian stare. He laughed out loud as disdain filled his eyes.

'Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh!'

•••

The ear-piercing sound of sword whistling sounded. A sliver of saber ray approached from afar toward Duan Ling Tian. It was so overwhelming that it looked like it was raining swords.

What followed the shower of swords that covered the sky was a silhouette that looked like a bolt of green lightning.

Heaven and Earth Phenomenon formed above the green silhouette's head, it was exactly the same as the Heaven and Earth Phenomenon above Zuo Yue's head. There were more than 1,620 ancient horned dragons' silhouettes.

Fourth Level Void Transformation!

Fourth Level Sword Concept!

Grade one Spirit Sword!

"Xu Qing!" When Duan Ling Tian saw the shower of swords raining down on him, his eyes quickly locked onto the green

silhouette behind the sword rain. He swung the Quasi Royal Grade Spirit Sword in his hand and dashed forward.

Nine Dragons' Radiant Flash!

As Duan Ling Tian dashed forward with his sword, three divine dragons that were transformed from the integration of four Concepts and Origin Energy soared out quickly.

'Whoosh! Whoosh!'

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As soon as the three divine dragons soared out, six beams of lights shot out from the three pairs of eyes. They were targeted directly at the green silhouette that was far away. The green silhouette was obviously Xu Qing.

"What a powerful sword skill!"

Six ultimate beams of lights charged forward at an alarming speed. Xu Qing narrowed his eyes, he thought he could easily kill Duan Ling Tian.

Soon after, his eyes gleamed as he withdrew the grade one Spirit Sword he drew out at lightning speed previously.

Suddenly, the shower of swords that rained on Duan Ling Tian vanished completely once Xu Qing recalled his attack.

'Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh!'

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As Xu Qing withdrew the sword in his hand, he swung the sword in an arc in front of him that formed a dense sword web.

'Clang! Clang! Clang!'

The sound reverberated almost as soon as the sword web was formed.

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The six ultimate beams of lights landed on the sword web one by

one as a clear sound rang out. Airwaves swept out in every direction. However, they did not pierce through the sword web.

'Such a fast sword!'

Duan Ling Tian became solemn, he did not expect Xu Qing's sword to be that fast. Xu Qing managed to form a layer of dense and indestructible sword web under such a circumstance.

Duan Ling Tian could tell the defensive technique of forming a sword web that Xu Qing performed was a defensive martial skill. Moreover, it was a heaven rank defensive martial skill!

The damage on Xu Qing's was not minor after he bore the brunt of the six ultimate beams of lights. He could feel a wave of tremor in his organs as his lifeblood surged. His eyes gleamed coldly as he shouted, "Zuo Yue, this Duan Ling Tian's very dangerous... Let's work together to kill him as soon as possible without any delay!"

"Haha! Xu Qing, it seems like you've suffered a great loss too." Zuo Yue seemed to have realized something as he laughed out loud. However, the smile on his face soon disappeared.

"Duan Ling Tian... Even the Emperor can't save you today!" Zuo Yue stared at Duan Ling Tian with a cold gleam in his eyes. It was as though he was looking at a dead person.

Right after he spoke, Zuo Yue dashed toward Duan Ling Tian like a gust of wind. The curved saber in his hand left an afterimage in the air and soon vanished.

Shadow Glow Machete!

At this moment, Zuo Yue cast the same skill he demonstrated earlier with the intention to kill Duan Ling Tian. It was the most powerful saber technique martial skill he had mastered.

'Whoosh!'

Zuo Yue's curved saber swung at Duan Ling Tian like the Grim Reaper's scythe in an attempt to reap Duan Ling Tian's life. 'Whoosh!'

Xu Qing moved and attacked simultaneously with Zuo Yue. Another shower of swords rained down as he lifted the sword in his hand. The shower of sword rained on Duan Ling Tian, and there was nowhere for him to run.

The both of them worked together, one attempted to slice Duan Ling Tian in half while the other wanted to pierce tens of thousands of swords into his heart.

More than 3,200 ancient horned dragons' silhouettes charged at Duan Ling Tian independently.

If that Heaven and Earth Phenomenon belonged to a single entity, Duan Ling Tian would have died!

Nonetheless, the Heaven and Earth Phenomenon still suppressed and suffocated Duan Ling Tian even though it belonged to two people.

'Split-Unite Formation!'

Duan Ling Tian's eyes looked cold as he faced the merciless attacks from the duo. He integrated his Origin Energy into the Quasi Royal Grade Spirit Sword in his hand and activated the Inscription Formation in it.

The Inscription Formation in the Quasi Royal Grade Spirit Sword was the Split-Unite Inscription Formation that Duan Ling Tian shortened to Split-Unite Formation.

Once it was activated, one would split into nine while nine would combine into one!

All of a sudden, the Quasi Royal Grade Spirit Sword in Duan Ling Tian's hand split into nine.

He then spread out his Spiritual Energy and covered all nine of his Quasi Royal Grade Spirit Swords so that they hovered and surrounded his body. 'Hmm?'

Xu Qing and Zuo Yue were shocked when they witnessed the sword in Duan Ling Tian's hand split into nine and hovered around him.

Although they were shocked, their attack did not slow down at all. The attacks swept mercilessly toward Duan Ling Tian.

Nine-Tribulation Sword Control Technique!

An idea sparked in Duan Ling Tian's mind as he faced Xu Qing and Zuo Yue's attack. He was prepared to perform the unfamiliar sword skill he obtained from the Martial Emperor's secret treasure earlier to control the nine Quasi Royal Grade Spirit Swords and fight his opponents.

As he unleashed all his Spiritual Energy, he controlled four out of nine Quasi Royal Grade Spirit Swords to charge out. The swords charged toward Xu Qing and Zuo Yue with ferocious saber rays running rampant.

'Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh!'

Each of the four Quasi Royal Grade Spirit Swords that charged in the air toward Xu Qing and Zuo Yue contained similar strength. It was similar to four Duan Ling Tians charging with a sword at the same time.

Unfortunately, since Duan Ling Tian was injured, the strength in each of the Quasi Royal Grade Spirit Sword was only equivalent to 1,400 ancient horned dragons' strength. It was far from his strength at his peak.

'Clang! Clang! Clang! Clang!'

Waves of magnificent energy collided with each other, the sound of explosions and four ear-piercing sound from the collision of metal weapons entered Duan Ling Tian's ears like a thunderstorm.

Duan Ling Tian had a contrived smile on his face as he watched

Xu Qing and Zuo Yue smashed the four Quasi Royal Grade Spirit Swords that charged at them. "The table would've turned if I performed the Nine-Tribulation Sword Control Technique earlier..."

He did not expect his current Spiritual Energy would allow him simultaneous control over four swords when he performed the Nine-Tribulation Sword Control Technique. The power of the attack was equivalent to four of him charging with the swords!

Unfortunately, there was no such thing as a regret pill that he could consume in this world.

The tiny mistake caused Duan Ling Tian to be placed in a difficult situation where he was vulnerable to Xu Qing and Zuo Yue's attacks.

"Split-Unite Formation!" In a moment of panic, Duan Ling Tian only had the time to grab the Quasi Royal Grade Spirit Sword that was hovering next to him so that he could combine the remaining eight Quasi Royal Grade Spirit Swords into one.

Sword Drawing Arts!

The Quasi Royal Grade Spirit Swords that became one charged quickly as though it had transformed into a thunderstorm of saber ray and headed toward Xu Qing and Zuo Yue's attacks.

Xu Qing and Zuo Yue were already in shock when they saw the sword in Duan Ling Tian's hand turned into nine swords.

Initially, they thought the nine swords that appeared were fake!

They only realized all the swords were real when the four swords charged at them with more than 1,400 ancient horned dragons' strength each.

However, they could not help but be surprised again at this very moment.

Before they could calm themselves down, they witnessed Duan

Ling Tian turned his nine swords into one. It caused a stir in their hearts again.

It had also caused their attacks to weaken without them realizing it.

Although their attacks were weakened, Duan Ling Tian still could not bear it due to the injuries that he sustained.

'Clang!'

'Whoosh!'

Duan Ling Tian was thrown off together with his sword once again as a curved saber and sword swung and collided with the Quasi Royal Grade Spirit Sword in Duan Ling Tian's hand and created an ear-piercing noise of metal weapons colliding.

Duan Ling Tian, who was thrown off like an arrow that left the bowstring, tried slowing down using his Origin Energy, but the effect was minuscule.

Eventually, his body smashed against the side of the wall. His organs shook tremendously while his lifeblood surged. He could not help but spit out a big mouthful of blood as it gurgled in his throat.

'Pa!'

Blood splatters were created from the blood that Duan Ling Tian spat on the ground and bloomed like bright red roses.

At this time, Duan Ling Tian could only take out the Life Recovery Pill that he had refined and consumed it.

'Hmm?'

Duan Ling Tian healed his injuries by absorbing the medicinal efficacy. As he looked apprehensively at Xu Qing and Zuo Yue who continued to attack him, he noticed the ground beneath him was trembling.

'An Inscription Formation!'

Duan Ling Tian's astute Spiritual Energy soon found out he had unintentionally activated another Inscription Formation.

No!

To be exact, he had activated two Inscription Formations. He noticed there was an aura of Inscription Formation that came from the other side before a loud bang sounded.

Chapter 999: The Violetspike Fruit

When Duan Ling Tian was looking in the direction of the loud explosion, a part of the ground was destroyed by a hidden energy that came from underground.

'Whoosh!'

A stone platform suddenly rose at an alarming speed.

There was an exquisite little box on top of the stone platform.

The tiny box was similar to the one Duan Ling Tian had seen at Qing Feng Palace's third level.

However, the object in the tiny box at Qing Feng Palace's third level was a silver key.

"Could... a gold key be in this box?' Duan Ling Tian's heart began to palpitate as he speculated on his own.

Duan Ling Tian's attention was on the tiny box, and it also caught the attention of Xu Qing and Zuo Yue who were charging menacingly toward Duan Ling Tian.

They were in the midst of charging at Duan Ling Tian when their movements came to a halt. A burning desire lit up their eyes.

'Whoosh!'

Soon after, Zuo Yue dashed out and changed his direction to the tiny box on top of the stone platform. The matter of killing Duan Ling Tian was pushed to the side for the time being.

"Zuo Yue!" Xu Qing shouted as his facial expression changed.

He did not expect Zuo Yue to be so selfish. He had promised he would kill Duan Ling Tian first and fight Xu Qing later. In the end, he went for the tiny box that they suspected might contain the gold key.

'Whoosh!'

All of a sudden, Xu Qing dashed out like a sharp gleaming sword at an alarming speed. He attempted to stop Zuo Yue from taking the tiny box with lightning speed.

"Hmph!" When Zuo Yue saw Xu Qing was going to fight over the tiny box that they suspected contained the gold key, his face was solemn as he scoffed. "Hmph!"

Without further delay, he began to fight Xu Qing.

Both of them were old rivals, their abilities were similar, and their fight usually ended in a tie!

However, they fought with all their might for the sake of the box.

They seemed to have completely forgotten about Duan Ling Tian.

Perhaps they felt Duan Ling Tian was no longer a threat to them at the moment, and whoever survived would be able to kill him easily.

On the other hand, Duan Ling Tian knew his life was no longer at risk for the time being when he saw Zuo Yue dashed toward the tiny box that they suspected contained the gold key.

Duan Ling Tian did not show too much interest in the tiny box at the moment.

Naturally, it would be wrong to say he had zero interest in the box.

At this moment, there was no way for him to obtain it even if he was interested.

'Hmm?'

Soon after, Duan Ling Tian's attention shifted to what was happening beneath his body. At this very moment, his entire being was lifted by a floorboard that was slowly rising.

Duan Ling Tian leaped and landed on the ground.

With just a glance, he saw a green vine had appeared under the

rising floorboard. The rising floorboard was being lifted by the green vine.

Although there was only one green vine before his eyes, it was as thick as an adult's thigh.

"What's that?"

However, what caught Duan Ling Tian's attention was not the green vine. It was the magenta fruit that hung on the green vine as it sparkled with a faint violet glow.

'Violetspike Fruit?'

When Duan Ling Tian browsed through the Rebirth Martial Emperor's memory, he quickly identified the fruit before his eyes. It was a spirit fruit exclusively for Void Transformation martial artists.

The Violetspike Fruit was a spirit fruit exclusive to Void Transformation martial artists.

Among the spirit fruits in the Rebirth Martial Emperor's memory, the Violetspike Fruit was considered the top spirit fruit that was exclusive to Void Transformation martial artists.

It was said that after consuming the Violetspike Fruit, even a martial artist who had just broken through to the Ninth Level Void Transformation would be able to break through to the Martial Emperor Stage and become a Martial Emperor powerhouse as long as he had comprehended the Monarch Stage Profundity.

One could imagine how powerful the Violetspike Fruit's medicinal efficacy was.

'I'm badly injured now. Even if I attack with all my strength, I can only muster up the strength of one thousand ancient horned dragons... Xu Qing and Zuo Yue can easily kill me!'

'But if I eat the Violetspike Fruit...'

Duan Ling Tian looked in the distance as he thought about this,

his guard was up the entire time.

He could not help but feel relieved when he saw Xu Qing and Zuo Yue did not notice the strange incident that occurred on his side since they were fighting over the tiny box that they suspected contained the golden key.

'Whoosh!'

At the same time, Duan Ling Tian, who felt relieved, immediately extended his hand as quick as lightning and plucked the ripe magenta fruit, the Violetspike Fruit. He immediately put it into his mouth.

Duan Ling Tian swallowed the Violetspike Fruit in just a few bites. He felt a stream of warm current entering his body and releasing powerful medicinal efficacy again and again.

'Such a powerful medicinal efficacy! The medicinal efficacy is so powerful that it can't even be compared to the spirit fruit I previously took from Zi Shang. With its medicinal efficacy combined with the overbearing medicinal efficacy of the Rebirth Pill... My cultivation base might be able to instantly break through to the Fifth Level Void Transformation!'

Although Duan Ling Tian had already known how great the Violetspike Fruit was from the Rebirth Martial Emperor's memory, he only realized how great the Violetspike Fruit really was after he consumed it.

'No! It's not just the Fifth Level Void Transformation... It's even possible to break through to the Sixth Level Void Transformation!'

Duan Ling Tian thought to himself when he sensed the Rebirth Pill's medicinal efficacy, that usually lay dormant deep in his Dantian, leaving his Dantian at an alarming speed. It then merged with his Origin Energy and the Violetspike Fruit's medicinal efficacy.

It was his first time seeing the Rebirth Pill's medicinal efficacy

this active. It felt like he was injected with chicken blood as Origin Energy ran lightning fast in the meridians within his body.

Nine Dragons War Sovereign Technique, Roving Dragon Form!

Without further delay, Duan Ling Tian immediately sat on the ground and cultivated with his eyes closed.

At the same time, he did not forget to hold the Ninth Level Wind Concept Fragment in his hand.

One should know that the comprehension speed of Wind Concept would be accelerated whenever he cultivated the Roving Dragon Form's mental cultivation method.

In his body, Origin Energy and the overbearing medicinal efficacy of the Rebirth Pill and Violetspike Fruit were rotating cycles after cycles with the aid from the Roving Dragon Form's mental cultivation method.

The bottleneck to the Fourth Level Void Transformation that was already loose became even looser after a few hard impacts. It felt like it would be broken through with just a few more impacts!

'Bang! Bang! Bang!'

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A few impacts later, Duan Ling Tian felt a light bang within his body as he broke through the bottleneck that led to the Fourth Level Void Transformation. Origin Energy surged as it went through a tremendous change.

Fourth Level Void Transformation!

The Origin Energy that had transformed did not stop there.

Triggered by the Rebirth Pill and the Violetspike Fruit's overbearing medicinal efficacy, the Origin Energy did not slow down as it continued to rotate cycles after cycles with the aid from the Roving Dragon Form's mental cultivation method.

Duan Ling Tian's cultivation base was rising at a terrifying

speed...

However, Duan Ling Tian's mind was not on his cultivation base. He could clearly feel his Wind Concept had changed, but the change did not come from the breakthrough.

'It doesn't seem like the Wind Concept has broken through... However, I can sense another kind of energy coming out of it. The energy feels charged and ready!'

'What's that exactly?!'

Curious, Duan Ling Tian tried making contact with the energy that came from the Wind Concept.

Soon after, he felt a burning aura coming out of his body. In just an instant, a rampant and hot energy soared and enveloped his entire being.

However, the burning red energy that appeared did not cause him any harm.

'It's the Fire... Fire Concept?!'

Duan Ling Tian opened his eyes and absentmindedly looked at the energy surrounding his body.

It was a Concept. The Fire Concept!

'That's not right... The Fire Concept's level seems to be... similar to the Wind Concept?'

Through trial and error, Duan Ling Tian discovered a shocking fact.

To his surprise, the Fire Concept that came out of the Third Level Advanced Wind Concept he had comprehended was similar to the Wind Concept. It was also the Third Level Void Transformation Concept!

It meant that the Fire Concept he just comprehended was instantly at the Third Level Advanced Fire Concept.

'Isn't this Nine Dragons War Sovereign Technique's Eighth Form, the Roving Dragon Form, a little crazy? It didn't only birth the Fire Concept out of the Wind Concept, the Fire Concept it birthed is on such a high level too!'

'Moreover, there seems to be some kind of connection between the Fire Concept and the Wind Concept... It feels like the Fire Concept would break through whenever the Wind Concept experiences a breakthrough!'

Duan Ling Tian's heart began palpitating when he thought about this.

'If that's really the case... I don't even have to comprehend Fire Concept separately! All I need to do is elevate the Wind Concept, and the Fire Concept will follow suit.'

'Perhaps when I have comprehended Wind Profundity, it would follow and turn into Fire Profundity as well!'

Duan Ling Tian's heart beat even faster as he thought to this point. It was beating so fast it felt like his heart was going to jump out of his chest.

"What's that?!"

What was happening on Duan Ling Tian's side finally caught Xu Qing and Zuo Yue's attention. After another round of attack, they did not rush into the fight again for the time being.

Their attention simultaneously shifted to the other side.

They saw a thick green vine that lifted a floorboard before their eyes.

With their great eyesight, they noticed a new notch on the green vine with just one glance. It was as though somebody had just plucked something off it.

"Spirit fruit!" The two of them looked at each other and saw realization dawned in each other's eyes. Both of their faces changed dramatically at the same time.

"Did Duan Ling Tian pluck the spirit fruit?"

"Could the spirit fruit be the other reward that Martial Emperor Qing Feng left behind at the fourth level? [1]" Both of their hearts thumped heavily.

They remembered Martial Emperor Qing Feng's message clearly. In the message, it was mentioned that there would be other rewards at Qing Feng Palace's fifth level apart from the gold key.

Martial Emperor Qing Feng did not reveal what the other rewards were in the message.

Therefore, they did not really pay any mind to the other rewards since the beginning.

As soon as the tiny box that they suspected contained the gold key appeared, they were so focused on fighting over the ownership of the tiny box that they had completely ignored what was happening on the other side.

Chapter 1000: Duan Ling Tian's Helplessness

"Damn it! Duan Ling Tian plucked the spirit fruit before we did...
I think he hasn't had the chance to consume it yet." Zuo Yue's expression was getting worse, he was so angry that his body trembled slightly.

'Whoosh!'

Compared to him, Xu Qing was much more straightforward as he charged directly at Duan Ling Tian like a sword. He dashed out and shouted at the same time, "Duan Ling Tian, hand over the spirit fruit!"

At this moment, neither Zuo Yue nor Xu Qing was surprised by the flame that was burning on Duan Ling Tian's body. It was the Fire Concept.

One should know Duan Ling Tian had never once used Fire Concept when he fought them earlier.

All of their attention was on the spirit fruit Duan Ling Tian had plucked from the green vine.

In their opinion, the spirit fruit was definitely not an ordinary spirit fruit since it was given as a reward at Qing Feng's fourth level.

"Xu Qing... Damn it!" When Zuo Yue saw Xu Qing with his quick as lightning sword approaching Duan Ling Tian in an attempt to kill him and snatch the spirit fruit, his facial expression changed dramatically.

Origin Energy ran rampant on his body while Wind Concept followed him like a shadow. He considered it thoroughly and prepared to chase after him.

However, his movement came to halt just as he stepped out.

It was as though something unexpected had happened.

"What... How... How's this possible?!" Zuo Yue, who was rooted to the spot, shuddered. His eyes were staring into the distance, they were filled with fear that came from the bottom of his heart.

At this moment, it seemed as though he had witnessed something unbelievable.

In the distance, Duan Ling Tian's face was calm as he faced Xu Qing who was determined to kill him in one blow with his sword that contained more than 1,620 ancient horned dragons' strength.

However, there was a chill hidden deep in Duan Ling Tian's eyes.

"I see you've come to die!" It was unknown when a grin appeared on Duan Ling Tian's face.

Although he sustained severe injuries on his body, he knew that it would be easy for him to kill Xu Qing with his current ability even if he had sustained even more serious injuries.

Duan Ling Tian's stare turned completely cold as he faced Xu Qing who was dashing toward him with a sword.

Nine Dragons' Radiant Flash!

In the next second, a Quasi Royal Grade Spirit Sword appeared out of nowhere as Duan Ling Tian lifted his arm. He aimed directly at Xu Qing who was charging at him menacingly.

'Whoosh! Whoosh!'

Almost as soon as Duan Ling Tian dashed out with his sword, three khaki divine dragons with red flames, green energy, purple lightning and a ferocious Sword Concept that surrounded them appeared out of thin air and charged toward Xu Qing.

At the same time, the green energy pierced the red flame and made the fire burn rampantly as the three divine dragons dashed out.

The Wind Concept was fueling the Fire Concept!

In the meantime, the three divine dragons' speed accelerated. Their eyes gleamed, and six ultimate beams of light shot out before it instantly disappeared. A short and sharp whistling noise sounded again and again.

The ultimate beams of light shot out from the three khaki divine dragons' eyes and vanished before Xu Qing's eyes the second they appeared.

"Sh*t!" Xu Qing's expression changed suddenly.

Unfortunately, it was destined to be the last expression he showed alive.

The second Xu Qing's expression changed, grotesque bloody holes appeared on each of his six vital body parts including the space between his eyebrows, throat, and chest.

Six bloody arrows were shot, they landed on the ground as blood splatters bloomed like bright red roses.

'Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh!'

• • •

Six ultimate beams of light shot through six vital parts in Xu Qing's body. After killing him, the lights continued on its trajectory and hit the side of the wall on Qing Feng Palace's fourth level.

One must say the wall in Qing Feng Palace's fourth level was really tough.

The six ultimate beams of light that came from the Nine Dragons' Radiant Flash Duan Ling Tian cast did not leave any marks on the wall even after he had a breakthrough in his strength.

'Bang!'

Xu Qing's body finally fell to the ground. He was no longer breathing when he fell into the pool of blood.

The most powerful young man in the current North Nether Sect

was dead!

"How's this possible?! No... It can't be... It can't be!!" Everything that had just happened shocked Zuo Yue who was ready to fight Xu Qing for the spirit fruit Duan Ling Tian possessed.

Zuo Yue happened to witness everything at the moment he was about to step out. He could not move his feet from the shock. It was as though his feet were filled with lead.

"Such powerful strength!" Although Duan Ling Tian was injured, his eyes lit up after he killed Xu Qing with just a blow.

'Fwah!'

Meanwhile, the Heaven and Earth Energy above Duan Ling Tian's head whirred and formed the Heaven and Earth Phenomenon. More than two thousand ancient horned dragons' silhouettes appeared.

Duan Ling Tian was injured so he could only muster up that amount of strength. Otherwise, the ancient horned dragons' silhouettes that appeared in the Heaven and Earth Phenomenon would definitely be more.

Although it was just a little boost of strength, it had caused Zuo Yue, who was standing in the distance still in shock, to reveal fear in his eyes as his expression changed drastically.

'Run! Run! Run! Run!'

• • •

At this moment, that was the only thought that filled Zuo Yue's mind. The thought immediately filled his entire mind.

'Whoosh!'

Without further delay, Zuo Yue dashed like a lightning toward the corridor that was furthest away from Duan Ling Tian in an attempt to escape.

The corridor was the Bumpy Road he went through earlier.

"Trying to escape?" Duan Ling Tian figured out Zuo Yue's intention in an instant.

He could not help but grin at this moment.

Zuo Yue had coveted the Profundity Fragment he possessed ever since the first time they met.

If it was not for Xu Qing and Lei Zhong, perhaps Zuo Yue would have attacked Duan Ling Tian when they first met.

Moreover, it was impossible he would let Zuo Yue go since Zuo Yue attempted to kill him earlier!

The moment a cold gleam flashed in Duan Ling Tian's eyes, he swung the Quasi Royal Spirit Sword in his hand to cast the Nine Dragons' Radiant Flash again.

In Duan Ling Tian's opinion, he could definitely kill Zuo Yue before he could escape with his current ability using the six ultimate beams of light from the Nine Dragons' Radiant Flash.

However, something unexpected happened when he was getting ready to attack.

'Bang! Bang! Bang!'

• • •

Just as Duan Ling Tian swung the Quasi Royal Spirit Sword in his hand to attack, he could feel tremors in his organs. His expression changed drastically. His face turned pale as he coughed up a mouthful of blood after he screamed, "Aahhh!"

An intense pain spread all over his body, it felt like he had completely lost his strength.

'Clang!'

Eventually, Duan Ling Tian could only use the Quasi Royal Spirit Sword to support his wobbly body.

'What happened?!'

Although Duan Ling Tian did not want to accept what had just happened, all he could do was watch as Zuo Yue faded in the corridor far away and disappeared before his eyes since he no longer had the strength to chase after him.

At this moment, his body was in a complete mess.

Duan Ling Tian took a deep breath and regained his composure, he figured out what happened after he took a look at his body.

"Ahh... I didn't expect this would be the cause." Duan Ling Tian smiled wryly, he could not help but feel helpless after discovering the cause.

He discovered the cause of the tremors in his organs and the intense pain all over his body that resulted in his complete loss of strength.

It was caused by the Origin Energy integrating with the Rebirth Pill and Violetspike Fruit's medicinal efficacy!

To be more precise, it was caused by the Origin Energy's breakthrough.

Initially, he had used his Origin Energy to automatically cycle through the rotation following the Nine Dragons War Sovereign Technique, Roving Dragon Form, after his cultivation base had broken through to the Fourth Level Void Transformation.

He did not think anything would be affected by that.

However, he did not expect the Origin Energy that surged out suddenly when he killed Xu Qing would cause the Violetspike Fruit and Rebirth Pill's overbearing medicinal efficacy to strike back. It caused the Origin Energy to accelerate to its peak.

In just seconds, it broke through the bottleneck to the Fifth Level Void Transformation and led him to the Fifth Level Void Transformation!

As his cultivation base broke through to the Fifth Level Void

Transformation, his Origin Energy also went through a transformation as expected.

The Origin Energy that had broken through became even faster from the Rebirth Pill and Violetspike Fruit's medicinal efficacy.

It messed up the cycle rotation Duan Ling Tian had his Origin Energy performed. All of a sudden, his Origin Energy had taken a wrong turn that caused a tremor in his meridians and messed up his body.

It had also severely injured Duan Ling Tian again!

Duan Ling Tian had completely lost his strength from the severe injury on his body. The only thing he could do was watch as Zuo Yue left.

"I hope Zuo Yue can't find his way out... Or else..." Duan Ling Tian took a deep breath, he did not dare to think about what would happen next.

Duan Ling Tian snapped back to reality when he felt waves of pain from the Origin Energy running rampant in his body. He quickly began to calm his rampant Origin Energy.

Nine Dragons War Sovereign Technique, Roving Dragon Form!

Due to Duan Ling Tian's attempt to calm it, the Origin Energy that was driven by the Rebirth Pill and Violetspike Fruit finally went back on track and rotated as usual.

At this moment, Duan Ling Tian consumed another Life Recovery Pill to heal.

The damages in the organs were recovering at the speed of light.

Approximately fifteen minutes later, Duan Ling Tian allowed the Origin Energy in his body to rotate without his guidance. It then shot out of his body and headed in the direction where Zuo Yue left.

Soon after, Duan Ling Tian entered the Bumpy Road as well.

As he passed through the Bumpy Road in a reverse direction, he received an 'enthusiastic reception' from the waves of Nature Energy just as he had expected.

However, entering the Bumpy Road again was as easy as walking on a flatland since he had a boost in his ability.

"Where's Zuo Yue?" Duan Ling Tian did not see Zuo Yue even after he passed through the Bumpy Road. Eventually, he detected an Inscription Formation's aura in a corner.

"This Inscription Formation..." Through the Rebirth Martial Emperor's memory, Duan Ling Tian discovered the purpose of the Inscription Formation in the corner. It was an Inscription Formation with a single opening.

It would usually appear at the exits or entrances of unique places where there was only one way out. One would be able to exit but not enter, and the other way round where one was allowed to enter but not exit!

"There's a path here as well?" The Inscription Formation activated as soon as Duan Ling Tian stepped out. It then turned into a faint light shield that shone on a large patch of ground in the corner.

'Rumble! Rumble!'

• • •

When the large patch of ground was shone on, it slowly opened and revealed a stone stairway leading down.

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